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Tuesday, June 08, 2010, 09:00



Man 'threatened to shoot' debt collector, Bristol Crown Court hears



Accused: Cam Mu

A NIGHTCLUB boss threatened to shoot a bailiff clamping a [Porsche](#) on his driveway as a guarantee for an unpaid council tax debt, a court has heard.

[Cam Mu](#), an entrepreneur in [Weston-super-Mare](#), armed himself with the Browning rifle and kicked [Christopher Simcock](#) as he clamped the car in lieu of £4,000 which [North Somerset Council](#) had dispatched him to collect, a jury was told.

Mu, 37, of Brean Down Avenue, denies assault by beating and possessing a firearm with intent to cause fear of violence in November last year.

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Mr Simcock told [Bristol Crown Court](#) yesterday he was employed by debt collecting agency Rossendales Ltd, who had been authorised by the council to collect the outstanding council tax.

He told the jury he visited Mu's home on three occasions, without seeing him, before returning a fourth time at 7am on November 5.

He said: "A gentleman confirmed himself to be Cam Mu. I said 'my name's Chris, from Rossendales, on behalf of [North Somerset District Council](#)."

"I explained what capacity I was there in and he seemed to be aware of the debt."

Mr Simcock said how, believing he would not be paid, he decided to clamp the Porsche as well as a BMW X5 on Mu's drive – but decided to leave the BMW when Mu said his wife needed it for the school run.

Mr Simcock said a "heated" situation ensued, with Mu trying to block him as he set about trying to clamp the Porsche with its personalised "5 Mu" registration number.

Suddenly, he said, Mu told him: "I'm going to get my rifle and I'm going to shoot you."

With that, Mr Simcock said, Mu went to his house and returned with a blue bag, about 4ft long.

He told the court: "He unzipped the bag, he put his hand in and he pulled the stock of a gun and pulled it out a few inches.

"He did it from the passenger side of the Porsche. He didn't say anything. He was looking at me."

Mr Simcock recalled how adrenaline kicked in and he swore at Mu, telling him: "Shoot me then."

He said he then called the police as Mu went into his garage and leaned the weapon against something.

The court heard that, though the police advised Mr Simcock to leave the scene, he continued to try and clamp the Porsche's wheel but struggled due to it being so low.

He said that as he lay there, grappling with the clamp's chain, Mu called him a "coward and wimp" and kicked him in the head – though he was not wearing heavy footwear and didn't cause injury.

During a two-hour interview with police, Mu denied producing the shotgun.

He did not accept making threats but said he tapped Mr Simcock on his shoulder.

[George Threlfall](#), defending, said the Porsche was actually owned by Mu's brother.

The case continues.

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