

Trial Ahead for Michelin-Starred Restaurant Owner Accused of Drink Spiking

Posted on February 19, 2024 by Travel Editor



In a startling development, Vikas Nath, a 61-year-old restaurant magnate with ownership of two Michelin-starred eateries, faces allegations of attempting to spike a woman's drink. The incident reportedly occurred at a prestigious members-only club in London's affluent Mayfair district.

Nath is charged with attempting to administer a substance with intent on January 15, alongside possession of the Class B substance gamma-butyrolactone (GBL) on the same date. The accusations suggest an intention to "stupefy or overpower" the woman, purportedly to facilitate sexual activity, according to the charges laid out.

Due to legal protections, the identity of the alleged victim remains undisclosed.

Appearing at Southwark Crown Court, Nath, residing in Knightsbridge, London, firmly denied the charges, pleading not guilty. The court observed Nath's courtroom presence, noting his formal attire but acknowledging his absence from the dock due to a hearing impairment.

The judiciary has scheduled a trial, anticipated to span four to five days, for February 2026. Amid the interim, Nath has been granted bail under stringent conditions, including residency requirements, travel restrictions, a prohibition on entering alcohol-serving premises, and a directive to avoid any contact with the alleged victim.

Nath's professional profile highlights his significant role in the culinary industry, directing a portfolio of seven restaurants across the UK and Spain, among which two have earned Michelin stars. This case has cast a shadow over his illustrious career, drawing attention to the serious nature of the allegations against him.

