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## Mae stalker jailed but walks free

**A man obsessed with violinist Vanessa Mae was sentenced to six months in jail for breaking a restraining order, but then walked free from court.**

David Martin had been obsessed with the musician for 10 years, sent her letters and tracked her movements in London.

The 56-year-old, of Brighton, was given a restraining order after he admitted harassing her, but then broke it.

He was sentenced at West London Magistrates' Court but walked free because of time he spent on remand.

Martin was issued with the indefinite restraining order in December 2003 under the Protection Against Harassment Act .

He was banned from two west London streets and was also forbidden from contacting Ms Mae, her fan club, or going to her concerts or anywhere near her homes.

He was arrested in February 2004 after the musician's boyfriend spotted him outside her Kensington flat.

District Judge Justin Phillips said on Tuesday he was imposing the longest sentence he could for Martin's "flagrant" breach of a court order.

Mr Phillips told Martin the case could be sent to crown court if he broke the order again in the next three months where he could face up to five years in jail.

### Violinist's fears

"When you are released, Mr Martin, you get out of London and stay out of London," he said.

Martin spent five months on remand while waiting to be sentenced for the harassment.



Martin kept track of Ms Mae's movements in west London

**“ When you are released, Mr Martin, you get out of London and stay out of London ”**

District Judge Justin Phillips

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After the hearing Ms Mae released a statement saying she was anxious about the fact that Martin had walked free from court.

She said: "I have been comforted by the fact that the police have taken this case seriously but it is worrying that he is now back out.

"Considering he has breached previous restraining orders, I can only hope that he starts to respect the law and my privacy from here on."

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