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*****For immediate release*****

TEVEZ NOT THE FIRST FOOTBALLER TO SCORE CAR INSURANCE OWN GOAL

As Carlos Tevez stands trial for driving whilst disqualified and without insurance, the Motor Insurers' Bureau (MIB) has revealed that the international striker could join a disgraced squad of footballers who have dropped the ball when it comes to car insurance.

If convicted, Tevez will join the likes of Arsenal striker Nicklas Bendtner, Stoke City winger Jermaine Pennant and Leeds United forward El Hadji Diouf in breaking the law by driving without insurance.

In 2012, MIB estimated that 1.2 million people were driving without insurance across the UK. With young males (aged 17-29) identified as common offenders, MIB's Chief Executive has called for footballers to set a better example to the next generation of drivers that follow the beautiful game.

Ashton West, Chief Executive of MIB, said:

“Footballers hold a unique position in our society – hero worshipped from the pub to playground. Given their profile and status, you would expect footballers to take their role-model positions amongst younger males more seriously. Every driver is responsible for making sure appropriate motor insurance is in place. No-one is above that law.”

MIB, which is responsible for compensating innocent victims involved in accidents with uninsured and untraced drivers, has helped to achieve a dramatic decrease in the levels of uninsured driving in recent years. But West warns the battle is not yet won.

Research undertaken amongst communities in the West Midlands and West Yorkshire – both identified as uninsured driving 'hotspots' – reveals that a third of people still do not understand the current laws on car insurance.

Press Release

“MIB continues to work with the police and community leaders to explain the legal requirements for insurance, which is there to protect everyone on the road. Police are also seizing uninsured cars every day of the week, with nearly 140,000 vehicles taken off the road last year.”

Uninsured driving – footy themed stats

- 1) Uninsured driving costs more per year (£400 million) than the Manchester City squad cost to assemble (£380 million)
- 2) If you line up uninsured cars seized in 2012, they could stretch from St James' Park to Wembley, via Old Trafford and Villa Park
- 3) You could fill the Etihad Stadium 25 times over with the number of uninsured drivers in the UK.

Check the facts on driving insured at www.askmid.com and support the MIB's Drive Insured campaign on Facebook by visiting www.facebook.com/driveinsured.



ENDS

Press Release

Notes to editors

Uninsured footballers – the 5-a-side team of shame

Past and present footballers arrested and/or charged and/or convicted of driving without insurance:

Footballer	Club
Carlos Tevez	Manchester City
Jermaine Pennant	Stoke City
El Hadji Diouf	Leeds United
Nicklas Bendtner	Arsenal (currently on loan at Juventus)
John Barnes	Ex-Liverpool FC

MIB Press Office (an ISDN line is available for interviews)

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For more information visit: www.mib.org.uk and www.askMID.com

About MIB

MIB aims to significantly reduce the level and impact of uninsured driving by working closely with partners across government and the insurance industry. The Bureau provides compensation to innocent victims involved in accidents with drivers who have no insurance or failed to stop.

The Motor Insurance Database (MID), introduced in 2001 is the only central insurance record of more than 37 million vehicles in the UK. The MID supports a range of users entitled to different levels of information about insured vehicles, including the police, solicitors, the DVLA and the public.

The MID is being used as part of a continuous insurance enforcement (CIE) scheme introduced in 2011 to identify registered keepers of vehicles that appear to have no insurance. The registered keeper of a vehicle without insurance will receive a letter reminding them that insurance is a legal requirement and failure to act will result in a fixed penalty. All drivers can check their vehicle is recorded on the MID for FREE - visit www.askMID.com.

Methodology – footy themed stats

- 1) Uninsured driving costs more per year than the Manchester City squad cost to assemble:
 - Annual cost of uninsured driving – £400 million
 - Source: www.mib.org.uk
 - Value of Manchester City squad – £380 million
 - Source: www.transfermarkt.co.uk/en/manchester-city
- 2) If you line up uninsured cars seized in 2012, they could stretch from St James' Park to Wembley, via Old Trafford:
 - 136,747 cars seized for no insurance in 2012
 - Average length of most popular car seized = 4,110mm
 - $4,110 \times 136,747 = 562,030,170\text{mm}$ (562.03km)
 - St James' Park to Wembley, via Old Trafford and Villa Park = £550.7km (source: <http://www.theaa.com/route-planner/index.jsp>)
- 3) You could fill the Etihad Stadium 25 times over with the number of uninsured drivers in the UK:
 - Estimated number of UK uninsured drivers = 1.2 million
 - Etihad stadium capacity = 48,000 (source: www.footballgroundguide.com/manchester_city/)
 - $1.2 \text{ million} / 48,000 = 25$