

THE COURT OF MAGISTRATES (MALTA) As A Court of Criminal Judicature

MAGISTRATE DR. CAROLINE FARRUGIA FRENDO B.A. (Legal and Humanistic Studies), LL.D., M.Juris (International Law), Dip. Trib. Eccl. Melit.

The Police (Inspector Jonathan Ransley) vs Simona-Corina Stefanidis

Today 25th September, 2018

The Court:

After having seen the charges brought against:

Simona-Corina Stefanidis, holder of Romania ID card no DP 163631.

Charged her with several acts committed by herself, even if at different times, constituted violations of the same provision of the law and were committed in pursuance of the same design durign the day of the 23rd September 2018:

- Committed theft of perfume and/or other items from shop 'Debenhams' which is situtated at Tigne Point, Sliema (The Point shopping mall) which amount exceeds two hundred and thirty-two euro and ninety-four cents (232,94);
- Committed theft of clothes and/or other items from shop 'Massimo Dutti' which is situtated at Tigne Point, Sliema (The Point shopping mall) which amount does not exceed two hundred and thirty-two euro and ninety-four cents (232,94);

- Committed theft of clothes and/or other items from shop 'Oysko' which is situtated at Tigne Point, Sliema (The Point shopping mall) which amount does not exceed two hundred and thirty-two euro and ninety-four cents (232,94);
- Committed theft of clothes and/or other items from shop 'Armani' which is situtated at Tigne Point, Sliema (The Point shopping mall) which amount does not exceed two hundred and thirty-two euro and ninety-four cents (232,94);
- Committed theft of a pair of shoes and/or other items from shop 'Guess' which is situtated at Tigne Point, Sliema (The Point shopping mall) which amount does not exceed two hundred and thirty-two euro and ninety-four cents (232,94);
- Committed theft of clothes and/or other items from shop 'Orsay' which is situtated at Tigne Point, Sliema (The Point shopping mall) which amount does not exceed two hundred and thirty-two euro and ninety-four cents (232,94);

She is also being charged with, in the month of September 2018:

 Committed theft of clothes and/or other items from shop 'Massimo Dutti' which is situtated at Tigne Point, Sliema (The Point shopping mall) which amount does not exceed two hundred and thirty-two euro and ninety-four cents (232,94);

After having seen that the Prosecuting Officer Inspector Jonathan Ransley read out and confirmed on oath the charges brought against the accused, in the presence of the accused on the 25th of September 2018.

After having seen all the documents exhibited in the proceedings, and more specifically a photocopy of the passport marked as Doc JR1, conviction sheet marked as Doc JR2, current incident report marked as Doc JR3, declaration of refusal to consult legal aid marked as Doc JR4 and statement marked as Doc JR5.

After having heard the accused register a guilty plea to the charges brought against her, in the sitting of the 25th September 2018.

After having explained the legal consequences of her guilty plea and given the accused sufficient time to reconsider her guilty plea, she re-affirmed her guilty plea.

Having heard oral submissions on punishment by the parties.

Considers:

In the light of the above plea of guilt which guilty plea was made voluntarily, expressly and unconditionally, the Court is satisfied that the accused is to be found guilty of the charges brought forward against her.

Regarding punishment, the Court took into consideration, the accused's clear conviction sheet and the guilty plea registered by the accused at such an early stage of the proceedings, in thus the Court did not have to waste time in gathering further evidence and also the fact that both the Prosecution and Defence agreed that the accused should not be given a judgement of effective imprisonment.

Decide:

Thus, after having seen the relevant sections at law in particular articles 18, 267, 284 and 279 of the Laws of Malta finds, the Court finds the accused Simona-Corina Stefanidis guilty of all the charges brought against her upon her own guilty plea and condemns her to a period of fourteen (14) months imprisonment that with the application of Article 28A of Chapter 9 of the Laws of Malta is to be suspended for a period of two (2) years from today.

In terms, of Section 28A(4) of Chapter 9 of the Laws of Malta, the Court explained to the accused in plain language her liability under Section 28B of Chapter 9 of the Laws of Malta if during the operational period of this suspended sentence she commits an offence punishable with imprisonment.

The Court is sending the acts together with this judgement to the Attorney General and this in accordance with Article 392A(2) of Chapter 9 of the Laws of Malta.

Dr. Caroline Farrugia Frendo LL.D. Magistrate

Nadia Ciappara Deputy Registrar