



**Court of Magistrates (Malta)
As A Court of Criminal Judicature**

Magistrate Dr. Donatella M. Frendo Dimech LL.D., Mag. Jur. (Int. Law)

Today, the 1st day of March, 2021

**The Police
(Inspector Jonathan Ransley)**

-vs-

Alexander William Staples, holder of Identity Card no. 69912A

Criminal Proceedings No. 520/2019

The Court,

Having seen the charges brought against the defendant **Alexander William Staples**, who is being charged with having:

On the 28th June, 2019, at around 05:00 in the afternoon, at The Strand, Sliema:

1. Without the intention to kill or to put the life of any person in manifest jeopardy, caused grievous bodily harm on Shabeeh Abbas as certified by Dr. Jessiva Pavia reg: 6003 of Mater Dei Hospital;
2. In any manner not otherwise provided for in this Code (Criminal Code), willfully disturbed the public good order or the public peace.

Whereas having heard the defendant plead guilty to all charges brought against him notwithstanding the fact that the Court warned him in the most solemn

manner of the legal consequences of his guilty plea, and after having given him sufficient time within which to reconsider and withdraw his guilty plea;

Having heard witnesses;

Having seen all the acts and documents exhibited;

Having heard the prosecution and defence counsel make their submissions on punishment;

Considers:

Having heard the guilty plea of the defendant to the charges brought against him, the Court has no alternative but to declare the defendant guilty of the said charges.

With regards to punishment, the Court took into consideration the accused's admission of guilt, his clean criminal record, the nature of the offences of which he stands charged and the circumstances of the case, in particular, the fact that the alleged victim, despite repeated requests for him to tender evidence since charges were instituted on the 11th September, 2019, only testified in July, 2020.

In view of the above, the Court, after having seen articles 17, 31, 214, 215, 216(1)(d) and 338(dd) of the Criminal Code, finds the defendant guilty of the charges brought against him and by application of article 22 of the Probation Act, Chapter 446 of the Laws of Malta, discharges the offender subject to the condition that he commits no offence during the forthcoming 3 years.

The Court explained to the defendant in ordinary language the significance of this judgement and of the consequences should he fail to observe the conditions imposed, namely that should he commit another offence during the period of conditional discharge, he will be liable to be sentenced for the original offence.

Finally, in terms of article 533 of the Criminal Code, condemns the defendant to the payment of €198.50 representing costs incurred in the employment in the proceedings of any expert or referee.

Dr. Donatella M. Frendo Dimech LL.D., Mag. Jur. (Int. Law)
Magistrate