

The Court of Magistrates (Malta) as a Court of Criminal Judicature

THE POLICE (INSPECTOR ROBERT AZZOPARDI) V. VICTOR OWUSU (IT. REF. NO. MC0053666)

(BREACH OF CASH CONTROL REGULATIONS - S.L. 233.07)

MAGISTRATE: DR. VICTOR G. AXIAK

6 March 2023

THE COURT,

having seen the charge brought against Victor Owusu ("the person charged") who was arraigned before her today and charged with having:

'in these islands, on the 4th March 2023 at about 17:45 HRS, at the Malta International Airport, Gudja, failed to declare to the Commissioner for Revenue, that he was carrying a sum equivalent to €10,000 or more in cash, whilst leaving Malta to Bergamo, Italy, in breach of Regulation 3 of Subsidiary Legislation 233.07 (Cash Control Regulations) of the External Transactions Act (Chapter 233 of the Laws of Malta)'

having seen that the person charged pleaded guilty to the charge brought against him and confirmed such admission having been given ample time to reconsider it,

gives the following

Judgement

The person charged was stopped at Malta International Airport on the day in question and was found with the amount of € 43,455 in cash in his possession. Given that he failed to declare to the Commissioner that he was carrying a sum of € 10,000 or more in cash, the Immigration Officials detained the amount of € 33,455 to deposit it in the Depository in accordance with Article 3(5)(b) of the said Regulations.

2. The person charged pleaded guilty to the charge brought against him and reiterated such admission having been given ample time by the Court to reconsider it.

Decision

For these reasons and having seen the relevant articles of the law (Article 3(1) and 3(5)(b) of the Cash Control Regulations – S. L. 233.07) the Court finds the person charged guilty of the charge brought against him upon his admission and condemns him to pay (i) a fine (multa) of \in 18,401 equivalent to 55% of the sum carried in excess of \in 10,000 rounded up to the nearest euro in accordance with Art. 3(e) of the Cash Control Regulations, and (ii) a fine (multa) of \in 50, that is a total of eighteen thousand four hundred and fifty one euro (\in 18,451).

V.G. Axiak Magistrate Y. M. Pace Dep. Registrar