

# IN THE COURTS OF MAGISTRATES (MALTA) AS A COURT OF CRIMINAL JUDICATURE

Magistrate Dr. Monica Vella LL.D., M.Jur

Case Number 4626/2024

The Police [Inspector Roxanne Tabone]

vs

Chloe May Frankish and John Chinedu Uche

Today the 26<sup>th</sup> June 2024,

The Court,

Having seen the charges brought against the accused:

Chloe May Frankish, 25 years old, daughter of late Robert Lane and Claire Frankish born in Maidstone, England on the 08 March 1999, no fixed address and holder of British Passport number:147583744;

And

John Chinedu Uche, 31 years old, son of Andrew Uche u Elisabeth born in London, England on the 30 November 1992, no fixed address and holder of British Passport number:13054461;

Charged with having:

Between the night of the 12/06/2024 and 13/06/2024 between 21.35hrs and 02.00hrs at the Malta International Airport, Gudja: -

- 1. With assaulting or resisting by violence or active force not amounting to public violence, any person lawfully charged with a public duty when in the execution of the law or of alawful order issued by a competent authority (Chapter 9 Article 96)
- Also that on the same days, times and circumstances disobeyed the lawful orders of any authority or of any person entrusted with a public service. (Chapter 9 Art 338 (ee))
- 3. On the same days, times and circumstances, wilfully disturbed the public good order or the public peace (Chapter 9 Art 338 (dd)
- 4. On the same days, times and circumstances, in any public place or place open to the public, you were found drunk and incapable of taking care of himself;or in any public place or place open to the public, or steam engine, or of anyvehicle, is manifestly in a state of intoxication, or,being in such a state, causes any annoyance ordisturbance, or is in possession of firearms, or refuses to quit any wine and spirit shop, inn, tavern or lodging-house, or attempts to enter any passenger boator vessel or other vehicle, or refuses to quit such boat,vessel or other vehicle (Chapter 9 Art 338 ff)

Also charge Chloe May Frankish alone on the same dates, times and circumstances with:

- 1. wilfully committed any spoil, damage or injury to or upon any movable or immovable property being a door forming part of a bench at the police Station which damage amounts to €436.60 to the detriment of Malta International Airport (Chapter 9 Article 325 (1)(b))
- 2. Also that on the same days, times and circumstances, without intent to kill or to put the life of anyperson in manifest jeopardy, shall cause harm to the body or health of Ps2318 and therefore causing slight injuries as certified by Dr. Jessica Pavia Reg. No: 4451. (Chapter 9 Articles 214, 215, 221)

Also charge John Uche alone on the same dates, times and circumstances with:

1. Also that on the same days, times and circumstances reviled, or threatened, or caused a bodily harm to any person lawfully charged with a public duty, while in the act of discharging his duty or because of his having discharged such duty, or with intent to intimidate or unduly influence him in the discharge of such duty. (Chapter 9 Article 95)

#### **Preamble:**

Since the persons accused in this case are being accused with different charges, the Court deems fit that the judgement be divided into two parts, one in respect of each accused.

With regard to the charges brought against the accused **Chloe May Frankish:** 

The Court,

Having seen all the records of the case;

Having heard the guilty plea registered by the accused Chloe May Frankish in today's sitting;

Having seen and examined all evidence and all the documents forming part of the proceedings;

Having heard the submissions made by the Prosecution and by the Defence;

Having duly considered all the records of the case and all submissions made;

Having explained to the accused the charges brought against her;

Having heard the accused plead guilty to said charges in today's sitting and this in the presence of Defence Counsel Dr. Alexia Vassallo;

Having warned the accused of the legal consequences of such guilty plea and having given the accused further time to reconsider her guilty plea; Having heard the accused reconfirm her guilty plea during the same sitting and thus said guilty plea was duly registered in the acts of these proceedings;

### **Considers:**

### The Facts of the Case

This case, in brief, relates to an incident which happened at Malta International Airport, whereby the accused allegedly attacked a police officer, did not obey the orders given by the police, breached the public peace, was in a state of intoxication while attempting to board a plane, committed voluntary damage to the detriment of Malta International Airport and committed slight bodily harm on PS 2318 Amanda Pickard.

#### Considers:

That although in the first sitting upon her arraignment the accused Chloe May Frankish declared herself not guilty, during today's sitting she registered a guilty plea;

That said guilty plea was reaffirmed by the accused after the Court duly explained to her the consequences of such guilty plea including the relative punishment prescribed by law;

That therefore such guilty plea was duly registered in the minutes of the case;

That thus upon such guilty plea the Court can only find the accused guilty as charged.

#### **Considers:**

That in pronouncing its judgement, the Court is hereby taking into consideration the fact that the accused registered an early guilty plea, that the accused collaborated with the Police during interrogation stage, and the nature and seriousness of the charges brought against her.

#### **Decides:**

Thus, the Court, after having seen Articles 96, 338 (ee) and 338 (dd), 338 (ff), 325 (1)(b), 214, 215, 221 of Chapter 9 of the Laws of Malta, hereby finds the accused **Chloe May Frankish GUILTY** as charged and in view of the said guilty plea the Court does not deem it fit to impose an effective imprisonment term upon the accused and is therefore condemning the accused Chloe May Frankish to the payment of a fine multa of four thousand Euro ( $\notin$ 4,000) and through the application of Article 15A of Chapter 9 of the Laws of Malta condemns the accused to pay the expenses of the damages she caused to Malta International Airport as per Dok F a folio 20 of the proceedings in the amount of four hundred and thirty six Euro and sixty cents ( $\notin$ 436.60).

The Court is also issuing a Restraining Order under Article 382A of Chapter 9 of the Laws of Malta against the accused and in favour of PS 2318 Amanda Pickard and this for a period of one year from today, which order is to be held temporarily in abeyance should the accused at any time during this period of one year come in need of the assistance of the said PS 2318.

The Court orders that should the accused not be in a position to pay the said fine, then the said fine is to be converted into days of effective imprisonment according to law and this without the need of any further procedures.

The Court explained to the accused Chloe May Frankish in clear and simple language the consequences of this judgement and her obligations under the same.

And

With regard to the charges brought against the accused **John Chinedu Uche:** 

The Court,

Having seen all the records of the case;

Having heard the guilty plea registered by the accused John Chinedu Uche in today's sitting;

Having seen and examined all evidence and all the documents forming part of the proceedings;

Having heard the submissions made by the Prosecution and by the Defence;

Having duly considered all the records of the case and all submissions made;

Having explained to the accused the charges brought against him;

Having heard the accused plead guilty to said charges in today's sitting and this in the presence of Defence Counsel Dr. Alexia Vassallo;

Having warned the accused of the legal consequences of such guilty plea and having given the accused further time to reconsider his guilty plea;

Having heard the accused reconfirm his guilty plea during the same sitting and thus said guilty plea was duly registered in the acts of these proceedings;

## **Considers:**

## The Facts of the Case

This case, in brief, relates to an incident which happened at Malta International Airport, whereby the accused allegedly attacked a police officer, did not obey the orders given by the police, breached the public peace, was in a state of intoxication while attempting to board a plane and threatened police officers.

#### **Considers**:

That although in the first sitting upon his arraignment the accused John Chinedu Uche declared himself not guilty, during today's sitting he registered a guilty plea;

That said guilty plea was reaffirmed by the accused after the Court duly explained to him the consequences of such guilty plea including the relative punishment prescribed by law; That therefore such guilty plea was duly registered in the minutes of the case;

That thus upon such guilty plea the Court can only find the accused guilty as charged.

#### **Considers:**

That in pronouncing its judgement, the Court is hereby taking into consideration the fact that the accused registered an early guilty plea and the nature and seriousness of the charges brought against him.

#### **Decides:**

Thus, the Court, after having seen Articles 95, 96, 338 (ee) and 338 (dd), 338 (ff) of Chapter 9 of the Laws of Malta, hereby finds the accused **John Chinedu Uche GUILTY** as charged and in view of the said guilty plea the Court does not deem it fit to impose an effective imprisonment term upon the accused and is therefore condemning the accused John Chinedu Uche to the payment of a fine multa of six thousand Euro (€6,000).

The Court orders that should the accused not be in a position to pay the said fine, then the said fine is to be converted into days of effective imprisonment according to law and this without the need of any further procedures.

The Court explained to the accused John Chinedu Uche in clear and simple language the consequences of this judgement and his obligations under the same

Dr. Monica Vella LL.D., M. Jur. Magistrate

Annalise Mifsud Deputy Registrar