



**COURT OF MAGISTRATES (MALTA)
AS A COURT OF CRIMINAL JUDICATURE
Magistrate Dr Astrid May Grima B.A. LL.D. Adv. Trib. Eccles. Melit.**

Today, 19th May 2025

District Valletta

Case Number 2571/2024

**Police
(Inspector Kevin Pulis)**

vs

**Maria Gudruhn Susanne Skjoeldkrantz
(ID card no. 209058A)**

The Court,

After having seen the charges brought against Maria Gudruhn Susanne Skjoeldkrantz, holder of identity card number 209058A.

Being charged of having on June 6th, 2023 at about 21:52hrs and 22:00hrs, in Strait Street, Valletta:

1. Wilfully disturbed the public good order or the public peace.
2. In any public place or place open to the public, been found drunk and incapable of taking care of herself, or in any public place or place open to the public, been in charge of a child under the age of seven years, or of any horse, mule or ox, or steam engine, or of any vehicle, been manifestly in a state of intoxication, or, being in such a state, caused any annoyance or disturbance, or was in possession of firearms, or refused to quit any wine and spirit shop, inn, tavern or lodging-house, or attempted to enter any passenger boat or vessel or other vehicle, or refused to quit such boat, vessel or other vehicle notwithstanding

the warning of the person in charge thereof not to enter into or to quit such boat, vessel or other vehicle.

3. Publicly uttered any obscene or indecent words, or made obscene acts or gestures, or in any other manner not otherwise provided for in this code, offended against public morality, propriety or decency.
4. No person shall keep in any premises or have in their possession, under their control or carry outside any premises or appurtenances any firearm or ammunition listed in Schedule II, without a license under this Act.
5. Disobeyed the lawful orders of any authority or of any person entrusted with a public service , or hindered or obstructed such person in the exercise of his duties, or otherwise unduly interfered with the exercise of such duties, either by preventing other persons from doing what they were lawfully enjoined or allowed to do, or frustrating or undoing what was lawfully done by other persons, or in any other manner whatsoever, unless such disobedience or interference falls under any other provision of this code or of any other law.
6. Refused to give, or untruthfully gave to any public officer or any other person entrusted with a public service in the actual exercise of his duties, her name, surname, address and other particulars.

Having seen all the documents presented in the acts of the proceedings.

Having heard the accused testify.

Having heard the parties declare that they are relying on the evidence presented in this case.

Considers

That in her affidavit PS2344 Abigail Laferla, stated that on the 6th June 2023, at around 21.52hrs the Police received an anonymous call that there was an argument in Strait Street, Valletta. The Police arrived and found Terrance Joseph Hlavinka and Maria Gudruhn Susanne Skjoeldkrantz who both refused medical assistance, and Skjoeldkrantz refused to provide identification and disobeyed orders, so at 2240hrs she was informed that she was being arrested for disobeying orders, refusing to provide particulars, disturbing the public peace and intoxication in a public place. She refused to go into the Police car so Police used minimal force to escort her to the Valletta Police Station. She kept on resisting and refused to hand

over her bags while insulting the Police by calling them bitches. She then fainted and Police called the ambulance and when they searched her bag they found pepper spray which is illegal.

That on the 22nd April 2024, the accused Maria Gudruhn Susanne Skjoeldkrantz declared that she wanted to assist herself and did not want to be assisted by a legal aid lawyer. She presented a medical certificate marked as AMG1 and eighteen photos marked as AMG2. She testified that on the 6th June 2023 she was at Kantina restaurant and an American couple who were on another table invited her to join them and they drank a lot of alcohol. She went to the ladies and when she went back the American couple had left, and she was told that the lady had fallen over and she noticed that she had left her sunglasses behind, so she picked them up and was going out to look for her at the Embassy Hotel. When she was leaving the restaurant she met Terence, and he accused her that she stole his wife's mobile phone. She emptied the contents of her bag to show him that all she had were the sunglasses and she was on the way to Embassy to return them. She was stressed because he didn't look well, and walked away but he followed her and she started shouting out to people to help her and to call the Police. He grabbed her from the neck, and she still had a problem to swallow, and she tried to spray him with a license free spray that she bought from the locksmith store, and then she fell, and then a Police car arrived and the Police woman did a body search on her and they didn't read her her rights. The accused said that she was confused and in shock and she said some bad words to the Policewoman for which she wanted to apologize. They put her in handcuffs and put her in the Police car and took her to the Police Station and she didn't remember if they told her why they were taking her to the Police station because she was in shock. She said that she wasn't intoxicated as she had only had one and a half glasses of prosecco. They put her in a garbage room and showed her a paper and punched her on her kidneys and then they let her go. On cross examination she denied not giving the Police her personal details because they took them from her purse. She went to the Paola Health care centre on the 8th June and asked them to take photos of her and they refused. She confirmed that she insulted the Police but only because she was in shock.

Considers

That, following a report that there was an argument in Strait Street Valletta, the Police found two people, who were asked if they required

medical assistance, however they refused. On asking the accused for her details she refused to give the Police this information and refused to follow orders and started insulting them. She was then arrested and taken to the police station and was later released. The accused explained that she was being attacked by the other person and had called out to people to call the Police, and when they arrived she was still in shock and could not understand what was happening. She admitted that she did insult the Police because she was in shock and they mishandled her and even hit her.

As with regards the disturbance of public peace, no witnesses or proof were produced by the Prosecution and in the affidavit there was no mention of what this disturbance was. Also although the affidavit makes reference to pepper spray this was not produced as evidence.

Decide

For the said reasons, the Court is **acquitting the accused from charges number one (1) and (4)** and after having seen articles 7, 13, 338(g), 338(bb), 338(dd), 338(ee) and 338(ff) of Chapter 9 of the Laws of Malta finds the accused **Maria Gudruhn Susanne Skjoeldkrantz** guilty of the second (2), third(3), fifth (5) and sixth (6) charge brought against her and **condemn s her to pay a fine (ammenda) of fifty eight Euro and twenty three cents (€58.23).**

Dr. Astrid May Grima B.A. LL.D. Adv. Trib. Eccles. Melit.
Magistrate