

COURT OF MAGISTRATES (MALTA) AS A COURT OF CRIMINAL JUDICATURE

MAGISTRATE ANTONIO GIOVANNI VELLA

Sitting of the 18 th November, 2010

Number. 596/2008

POLICE INSPECTOR TREVOR MICALLEF VS

RALF JORG FELDT

The Court;

After seeing the charges brought against:

Ralf Jorg Feldt, 34 years, son of Richard and Maritza nee' Zuniga, born 2nd September 1976 in San Jose Costa Rica, resides at Lion's Court, Flat 6, Sacred Heart Avenue, St. Julian's and holder of Maltese identity card no. 37772(A) or German passport no. 352800795; Informal Copy of Judgement

For Having on these islands on 3rd July 2008, at about 03.00am inside Shadows Lounge situated in St. Rita Steps St. Julian's;

1) Without the intent to kill or to put the life in manifest jeopardy, caused grievous bodily harm on the person of Keith Bone;

2) Willfully disturbed the public good order or the public peace;

Considers:

The facts of the case were as follows. The accused, together with some clients and friends, was at Shadow Lounge in Paceville on the night in question, having a drink in the VIP area of the same establishment. At some point tin time before the incident occurred, Keith Bone came into the same establishment, together with some relatives and friends of his, and after a short while, for some reason unknown to all, an argument ensued just outside the VIP area within the same lounge. The accused went over to see what was happening, together with some other friends of his, and at some point in time, Mr Bone suffered grievous injuries to his face caused by a glass object breaking on his face. The Police were informed about this incident, and after their investigations were concluded, the accused was charged with this offence.

From the evidence brought by both parties, the Court is convinced that the accused did not cause the said injuries to Mr Bone. Apart from the various versions given by the witnesses in this case, which versions appear contradictory at times, it is highly unlikely that the accused actually broke a glass object in Mr Bone's face. In the first instance, none of the witnesses could give a clear account as to how the whole incident happened. All they could agree with is that there was a commotion between two women in the lounge just before Keith Bone suffered the Informal Copy of Judgement

injuries mentioned earlier, but none of the versions agree as to how those injuries were sustained. In the second instance, the Court finds it very indicative that Michael Cribari, who was with Mr Feldt on the night in question, suffered injuries to his hand caused by a broken glass object. It may very well have happened that Mr Cribari was the person responsible for the injuries sustained by Mr Bone, and that in breaking the glass on Mr Bone's face – accidentally or intentionally – he also injured himself, but no evidence was produced in this sense.

The Court was also furnished with a recording of a conversation that allegedly took place between this same Michael Cribari and the accused, and although the whole scenario presented there is a plausible one, the Court had no control over its production, and therefore had to discard it completely in its considerations to determine the guilt or otherwise of the accused. In the final analysis, the Court can safely conclude that the Prosecution failed to prove its case and produce sufficient evidence to convict Mr Feldt of having caused the injuries to Keith Bone. As a result, the Court finds no fault in the accused and shall proceed to acquit him from all charges.

Now, therefore, for these reasons;

After having heard the evidence and the documents exhibited;

After having seen Articles 218, 216, 338(dd) and 533 of the Criminal Code, Chapter 9 of the Laws of Malta;

The Court does not find the accused Ralf Jorg Feldt guilty as charged and therefore acquits him from all charges brought against him.

The Court explained in clear words the terms of the judgement to the accused.

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< Final Judgement >

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