



MALTA

**IN THE COURT OF MAGISTRATES (MALTA)  
AS COURT OF CRIMINAL JUDICATURE**

**MAGISTRATE  
DR. CHARMAINE GALEA**

**Today, 24<sup>th</sup> November 2016  
(Qawra sitting)**

**The Police  
(Inspector Godwin Scerri)**

**vs.**

**Steven John Howard  
(British Passport number 531824691)**

The Court;

Having seen that the offender **Steven John Howard** was charged with having on the 25<sup>th</sup> of August 2016 at around 06:15hrs, in J Quintinos Street, St Paul's Bay, without the intent to kill or to put the life of Ms Yvonne Jane Griffiths in manifest jeopardy with the use of an irregular arm caused the mentioned slight bodily harm in breach of Articles 64(2), 214, 222 of Chapter 9 of the Laws of Malta.

Also accused with having on the same date, time, location and circumstances caused Ms Yvonne Jane Griffiths fear that violence will be

put against her or her property in breach of Article 251B of Chapter 9 of the Laws of Malta.

Also accused with having on the same date, time, location and circumstances carried outside any premises or appurtenance thereof, a knife or pointed instrument without the license of the Commissioner of Police in breach of Article 6 of Chapter 480 of the Laws of Malta.

The Court was kindly requested that if the accused was found guilty, to provide for the safety of the injured person, for the keeping of the public peace and for the purpose of protecting the injured person or other individuals from harassment or other conduct which may cause fear of violence, issue a protection order against the accused as contemplated in Article 412C of Chapter 9 of the Laws of Malta.

Having seen the acts of the case;

Having heard the offender plead guilty, which guilty plea was reconfirmed after the court gave him some time to reconsider his guilty pleas;

Having heard the submissions about punishment by the Prosecution.

**Considered that:-**

From the evidence submitted and from the guilty plea registered by the offender, the Court concludes that the offender is guilty of the charges laid against him.

As regards the punishment, the Court took into consideration the fact that the offender admitted to the charges at a very early stage of the proceedings, that he co-operated with the police, and that the Prosecution declared that a suspended sentence would be an appropriate punishment in the circumstances.

## **DECIDE**

For these reasons the Court after having seen sections 64 (2), 221, 251B, of the Criminal Code and section 6 of Chapter 480 of the Laws of Malta, on his admission finds offender **Steven John Howard** guilty of all the charges brought against him and condemns him to six (6) months imprisonment which by application of section 28A (1) of Chapter 9 are being suspended for a period of two (2) years from today. The Court also condemns the offender to the payment of a fine (multa) of one hundred and sixteen euro and forty seven cents (€116.47) and orders the confiscation of the knife exhibited during these proceedings.

In accordance with sections 28A (4) of Chapter 9 of the Laws of Malta, the Court explained in clear and simple language the meaning of this judgement to the offender, and the consequences which would follow if he fails to abide by it, that is if he commits another offence which is punishable by imprisonment within the operative period.

The Court is also issuing a Protection Order in terms of section 412C against Steven John Howard and in favour of Yvonne Jane Griffiths for a period of three (3) years under the terms and conditions listed in the degree annexed to this judgement and which forms an integral part of the same.

**Dr. Charmaine Galea**  
**Magistrate**

Diane Gatt  
Deputy Registrar