



**COURT OF MAGISTRATES (MALTA)
AS A COURT OF CRIMINAL JUDICATURE
MAGISTRATE DR. GABRIELLA VELLA B.A., LL.D.**

**The Principal Immigration Officer
(Inspector Karl Roberts)**

Vs

Luke Anthony Spiteri

Today, 26th August 2021

The Court,

After having considered the charges brought against Luke Anthony Spiteri, a British national, son of Martin and Patricia neè Mount, born in Crawley on the 15th February 1991, residing in Gatwick, England and holder of British Passport Number 577160341, of having on the 25th August 2021 or days prior this date in these Islands:-

1. In order to gain any advantage or benefit for herself or others, in any document intended for any Public Authority, knowingly made a false declaration or statement or gave false information;
2. Committed any other kind of forgery or knowingly made use of any other forged document;

After having considered the documents submitted by the Prosecution namely: (i) the Conviction Sheet of the accused - Doc. "A"; (ii) the Police Report regarding the incident forming the merits of these proceedings - Doc. "B"; (iii) a photocopy of the passport of the accused - Doc. "C"; (iv) a declaration by the accused regarding refusal of legal advice - Doc. "D"; (v) a statement given by the accused - Doc. "E"; (vi) the falsified COVID Vaccine Certificate - Doc. "F".

After having heard the accused plead guilty to the charges brought against him, which guilty plea was confirmed by him even after the Court, in terms of Section 453(1) of Chapter 9 of the Laws of Malta, warned him in the most solemn manner of the legal consequences of his guilty plea after having given him sufficient time within which to reconsider and withdraw his guilty plea;

After having heard submissions regarding punishment, including the submission that the second charge brought against the accused is alternative to the first charge brought against him;

Considers:

The accused is being charged of having on the 25th August 2021 or days prior this date in these Islands:- (1) in order to gain any advantage or benefit for herself or others, in any document intended for any Public Authority, knowingly made a false declaration or statement or gave false information; (2) committed any other kind of forgery or knowingly made use of any other forged document.

The accused pleaded guilty to the charges brought against him.

In view of guilty plea by the accused, the Court finds the accused guilty of the first charge brought against him however, it abstains from considering the second charge brought against him since this is alternative to the first charge so brought against the accused.

In so far as concerns punishment the Court took into account the nature of the charges brought against the accused but also the fact that the accused submitted a guilty plea at an early stage of the proceedings and that he has a clean conviction sheet.

Therefore after considering Sections 11 and 188(2) of Chapter 9 of the Laws of Malta, the Court, whilst reiterating that it is abstaining from considering the second charge brought against the accused and that it is finding the accused guilty of the first charge brought against him, condemns the accused to a fine (*multa*) of five hundred Euro (€500).

MAGISTRATE

DEPUTY REGISTRAR