

IN THE HIGH COURT OF LAGOS STATE
HOLDEN AT IKEJA JUDICIAL DIVISION
SITTING AT HIGH COURT NO. 13, SPECIAL OFFENCES COURT 1.
BEFORE THE HON. JUSTICE M.A. DADA (MRS.)
TODAY THURSDAY THE 18TH DAY OF APRIL, 2019

SUIT NO: ID/8723C/19

BETWEEN:

FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA

---- COMPLAINANT

AND

ONIKOLA ABAYOMI MATHIAS

---- DEFENDANT

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JUDGMENT

The Defendant has just been re-arraigned on a 2 Count Amended Information dated 17/4/19 bordering on Possession of Fraudulent Documents contrary to **Section 318 CLL, 2011** to which he pleaded guilty on each of the Counts. This is consequent upon a Plea Bargain Agreement he entered into with the Prosecution which is dated 18/4/19 jointly executed by Parties and their respective Counsel. The Review of the Facts of the Prosecution's case is that following a tip off which complained about the despicable activities of many young persons without legitimate means of livelihood yet living flamboyant extravagant lives, surveillance was conducted following which a covert operation was carried out and on 21/12/18 at about 08:00 hrs, the Defendant was arrested alongside several other young persons ranging between ages 19 and 24 around Baba Odi area, Onibukan Ota, Ogun State by the Operatives of the EFCC for indulging themselves in fraudulent online activities. The e-mail address operated by the Defendant was analysed and several fraudulent documents were printed out. Also that the analysis of the Defendant's mobile phone revealed that he is engaged in many cyber atrocities such as stealing of identities and other online fraudulent dealings including love and romance scams. The prints-out and the extra-judicial statements of the Defendant are **Exhibits P 1 – P4**.

The Defendant having pleaded guilty is hereby convicted as charged.

A term of one (1) year imprisonment has been proposed by the Parties in the Plea Bargain Agreement and the Defendant is accordingly sentenced to one year imprisonment commencing from the date of first Arraignment to wit, 22/03/19 when he was remanded in lawful custody.

Any Allocutus?

Orere: The Defendant is a young man and immediately his father heard of his arrest, he could not bear the shock and died. His mother is bedridden. I plead with your lordship to grant him mercy, a pardon, a milder punishment or option of fine.

MRS. DADA 1

Court: In view of the allocutus presented by the defence Counsel, the Defendant also being obviously remorseful, he is hereby granted an option of a fine of N150,000 in lieu of his prison sentence. The Defendant shall in addition undertake to the EFCC to be of good behaviour and never to be involved in any form of crime within or outside the shores of Nigeria.

He shall also forfeit to the Federal Government all the items recovered from him in the course of the Investigation of this case.

I so hold.

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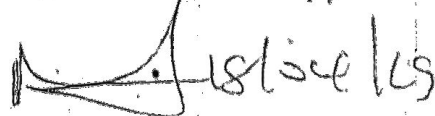
HON. JUSTICE M.A. DADA (MRS)
JUDGE
(18/04/19)

C.R. Edozie with M.K. Hussein for the Prosecution.
Micheal Orere for the Defendant.

~~004778871~~
18/4/19
2019



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Akinwande O. P.
Commissioner For Oaths
High Court Of Lagos, Iketa