

IN THE HIGH COURT OF LAGOS STATE
HOLDEN AT IKEJA JUDICIAL DIVISION
SITTING AT HIGH COURT NO. 12, SPECIAL OFFENCES COURT 1.
BEFORE THE HON. JUSTICE M.A. DADA (MRS.)
TODAY THURSDAY THE 7TH DAY OF MAY, 2019

SUIT NO: ID/9342C/19

BETWEEN:

FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA

---- COMPLAINANT

AND

GANIYU SHERIF ABIODUN

---- DEFENDANT

JUDGMENT

The Defendant has been arraigned on an Amended Information dated 7/5/19 on 1 Count of Possession of Fraudulent document contrary to **Section 318 Criminal Law of Lagos State No. 11 of 2011**. The Defendant Pleaded Guilty to the said Count and the Prosecution tendered the Defendant's extrajudicial confessional statement dated 13/03/19, his EFCC Confessional Form dated 15/03/19 and the Prints-out from his e-mail address sandraavril25@gmail.com which are **Exhibits P1 – P3 respectively**.

The foregoing is consequent upon the Plea Bargain Agreement jointly executed by the Parties dated 7/05/19.

The Review of Facts of same date as presented by the Prosecution reveals that the Defendant was arrested during a raid by the EFCC on 13/03/2019 at No. 4 Nwobi Lane, Ologolo-Igbo Efon Lagos State. The Defendant confessed to be into "romance scam" where he represented himself as a white lady by the name Sandra Avril by which he defrauded unsuspecting victims. He was found in possession of Lexus vehicle with registration No. ABJ 936 JQ. Other instruments of Fraud recovered from the Defendant are an Iphone, a Black Nokia Torch, a Black Acer laptop and an Apple Macbook. The Defendant having Pleaded Guilty to this Amended Information dated 2/5/19 is hereby convicted accordingly.

A term of one year and four months imprisonment has been proposed and agreed to by Parties. The Defendant is hereby sentenced to one year and four months imprisonment from today while all the listed items recovered from the Defendant are hereby forfeited to the Federal Government of Nigeria. The Defendant shall also upon his release from custody undertake to the EFCC to be of good behaviour and never be involved in any form of crime within or outside the shores of Nigeria.

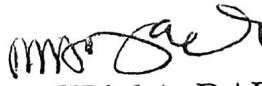
Makinde: The Defendant has repented by his conduct and I promise to follow up on him. I urge your lordship to grant him an option of fine.



ourt: I must commend the style of the Defence Counsel in exploring the window open to the defence in timeously proceeding on a Plea Bargain Agreement. The notoriety of this nature of crime which has assumed an alarming proportion and has become a global embarrassment to the Nigerian society and therefore granting an option of fine no longer seems adequate.

However, the Defendant being a first time offender shall be granted an option of fine as Pleaded for by his Counsel and he is hereby granted an option of N250,000 fine in lieu of his prison sentence.

This is the judgment of the Court.


HON. JUSTICE M.A. DADA (MRS)
JUDGE
(7/05/19).

Ms Bilikisu Buhari for the Prosecution.

Z. S. Makinde with Moshood Gbadamosi for the Defendant.