

IN THE HIGH COURT OF THE FEDERAL CAPITAL TERRITORY
IN THE ABUJA JUDICIAL DIVISION
HOLDEN AT MAITAMA

BEFORE HIS LORDSHIP : HON. JUSTICE Y. HALILU
COURT CLERKS : JANET O. ODAH & ORS
COURT NUMBER : HIGH COURT NO. 14
CASE NUMBER : CHARGE NO: CR/571/2024
DATE: : WEDNESDAY 3RD JULY, 2024

BETWEEN:

FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA COMPLAINANT

AND

ISMAILA ADEIZA ITOPA(a.k.a Chase Rice)...DEFENDANT

JUDGMENT

Defendant was arraigned before the court on the 3rd July, 2024 on a one (1) count charge, based on a Plea Bargain Agreement dated the 3rd July, 2024 duly signed by both Prosecution and Defendant in that order.

Defendant pleaded guilty to the one (1) count charge.

Regardless of the existence of a Plea Bargain Agreement, aforementioned, I have taken note of the fact that the offence in question is not capital in nature to warrant a not guilty plea to be entered for the Defendant.

In view of the guilty plea entered by the Defendant, and pursuant to Section 270 of the Administration of Criminal Justice Act (ACJA), 2015 which envisages Plea Bargain Agreements of this nature, I shall therefore proceed to convict the Defendant as charged.

Accordingly, Defendant is hereby convicted as charged.

Justice Y. Halilu
Hon. Judge

3rd July, 2024

ALLOCUTUS

Shomoye, Esq.: - We urge the Court to sentence the Convict as per the Plea Bargain Agreement.

SENTENCING

I have listened to the Convict's Allocutus as ably presented by his counsel.

The incessant cases of crimes being committed by our youths which are associated with Cyber-crimes calls for serious concern.

Even though the Economic and Financial Crimes Commission (EFCC) has entered into a Plea Bargain Agreement with the Convict, I would also further advice that Convict be subjected to custodial training in other fields of endeavor which in the end will add value to not just the Convict, but the society at large.

Convict is hereby sentenced to a term of six (6) months in imprisonment with an option to pay fine of N200,000.00 (Two Hundred Thousand Naira).

Convict shall similarly forfeit iphone 13 promax, Tecno Camon 15 and Lexus ES 350 white color with registration number BWR 888BX to the Federal Government of Nigeria being proceeds of crime.

Convict shall also depose to affidavit of good character before the Registrar of this court.

***Justice Y. Halilu
Hon. Judge
3^d July, 2024***

APPEARANCES

Maryam A.A., Esq. – for Prosecution.

K.M. Shomoye, Esq. – for the Defendant.