

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/848/2024
DATE: : WEDNESDAY 20TH NOVEMBER, 2024

BETWEEN:

FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA COMPLAINANT

AND

**CHIKWE PRECIOUS (a.k.a Mercedes
Blanche) } DEFENDANT**

JUDGMENT

Defendant was arraigned before this court on the 20th November, 2024 on a one (1) count charge, based on a Plea Bargain Agreement dated the 20th November 2024 duly signed by both Prosecution and Defendant in that order.

Defendant pleaded guilty to the one count charge.

It is instructive to note that this court is not one of summary trial to warrant convicting and suffering an accused upon a guilty plea.

I am however to note that it is the desire of Government to ensure proceeds of crime are not stolen forever; opportunity to Plea Bargain was created vide legislative intention. Section 270 of Administration of Criminal Justice Act (2015) which allows for plea bargain, now permits for summary judgment upon a guilty plea entered by an accused person.

I have seen and read the one count charge. It is not bordered on crimes that are capital in nature which is why a guilty plea is hereby entered. Were they, the court could have entered a not guilty plea despite the guilty plea.

Accordingly, Defendant is hereby convicted as charged.

Justice Y. Halilu
Hon. Judge
20th November, 2024

ALLOCUTUS

Maryam, Esq.: - We have a Plea Bargain Agreement with the Defendant. We urge the court to convict him based on the Plea Bargain Agreement.

SENTENCING

Convict is hereby sentenced to a term of three month imprisonment with option to pay N200,000 (Two Hundred Thousand Naira) as fine.

Convict shall similarly have his Iphone II recovered which is proceed of crime sold by EFCC and proceeds paid into crime account of the Federation.

The sum of \$1000 restituted by the court shall be forfeited to the Federal Government of Nigeria and same paid into the crime account of the Federation.

Affidavit of good behavior shall be deposed to by the convict.

***Justice Y. Halilu
Hon. Judge
20th November, 2024***

APPEARANCES

Maryam A. A., Esq. – for the Prosecution.

C. J Akoh, Esq. – for the Defendant.