

**IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE FEDERAL CAPITAL TERRITORY
IN THE ABUJA JUDICIAL DIVISION**

HOLDEN AT HIGH COURT MAITAMA –ABUJA

BEFORE: HIS LORDSHIP HON. JUSTICE S.U. BATURE

COURT CLERKS: JAMILA OMEKE & ORS

COURT NUMBER: HIGH COURT NO. 24

CASE NUMBER: SUIT NO. FCT/HC/CR/30/2018

DATE: 28/09/2023

BETWEEN:

FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA.....COMPLAINANT

AND

HEART VICTOR NONSO.....DEFENDANT

APPEARANCE:

Z. S. NasEsq for the Prosecution.

Dele IgbinedionEsq for the Defendant, with I. Okpara (Mrs) Esq and O. S. Oguche Esq.
Defendant is in Court.

JUDGMENT

Nas Esq: We filed a Plea bargain agreement before this Court and along with it is an amended Charge dated 24th July, 2023. We humbly apply that a fresh plea be taken.

IgbinedionEsq: That is the Position, we are grateful.

Court: Granted. The Amended one Count Charge dated 24th day of July, 2023 read to the hearing of the Defendant.

Defendant do you understand the Count?

Defendant: yes, I understand the Charge.

Court: How do you plead to the one count charge?

Defendant: I plead guilty.

NasEsq: Based on his plea, we humbly apply that the Defendant be convicted accordingly, and the Sentence be reduced to one year imprisonment or ₦100,000.00 fine as proposed in the agreement.

Defendant: Yes I am aware that there's a plea bargain Agreement. Yes, I was taken through all the terms of the plea bargain agreement. No, no one coerced or induced me to enter into it. It was made voluntarily.

Court: Having listened to the Defendant, I am satisfied that the plea bargain agreement was entered into voluntarily by the Defendant.

Therefore, the Court shall proceed to convict him accordingly.

CONVICTION

The Defendant having pleaded guilty to the offence charged, is hereby convicted accordingly based on his own admission.

Signed:

***Hon. Justice S. U. Bature
28/09/2023.***

IgbinedionEsq: We are grateful to the Court.

The Defendant has learnt his lesson. He has suffered throughout this trial. He has spent 1 year and 4 months in Kuje Prison, before he was released on bail. In the process, he lost his father due to the shame that was brought to the family and the debilitating funds of the family. He has learnt his lesson. We plead with the Court for mercy. He's a changed man. We urge My Lord to sentence the Convict on the terms of the plea bargain.

CONVICT

I accept the plea bargain and I am sorry for what I did. I will never do it again. I have a surviving parent. My mother is alive.

Nas: No objection.

SENTENCE

In passing this sentence, I've considered Learned Defence Counsel's Plea to the Court, the Convict's plea, the terms of the plea bargain agreement and the Prosecution's response to same.

I've equally observed the demeanour of the convict who has shown remorse for his actions. In view of this, the Convict is sentenced to an Imprisonment term of 1 year or to pay a fine of **₦100,000.00**.

Signed:

Hon. Justice S. U. Bature
28/09/2023.