



Dominica Official Gazette

Published by Authority

VOL. CXL

ROSEAU, THURSDAY JULY 27, 2017

No. 33

Departmental and Other Notices

THE EASTERN CARIBBEAN SUPREME COURT
IN THE COMMONWEALTH OF DOMINICA
IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE

CASE NO. DOMHCR2016/0038

Between:

The State
and
John Frank Stedman

Appearances:

Ms. Carlita Benjamin led by the Director of Public Prosecutions for the State;
Mr. Peter Alleyne for the defendant

2017: March 3rd
June 9th

JUDGEMENT ON SENTENCING

BACKGROUND FACTS

- [1] CHARLES-CLARKE, J: The offender was indicted on two counts of bestiality. He pleaded guilty to the second count of having sexual intercourse with an animal to wit one black she goat on the 11th day of January 2014 at Case O Gowrie, La Plaine. The Crown accepted the plea to the second and withdrew the first count.

- [2] The facts reveal that the defendant was seen by the owner of the she-goat who had set up a watch after he observed certain things about the animal. On the night in question he saw someone having sex with the goat and observed him for about five minutes. He flashed his light upon the person who ran away. He caught up the person and confronted him. He realised it was the accused. When confronted the accused denied he was the one responsible. The owner gave him a cut with his cutlass in order to mark the accused in case he said he was not the one who was caught. Veterinarian Dr. John Stedman examined the goat's vagina and found that there was an abrasion on the upper crevice of the vulva with hyperaemic mucosal membrane on the internal vulva walls.

THE SOCIAL INQUIRY REPORT

- [3] A social inquiry report ordered by the court before sentence revealed that the offender had good familial relations with his eight siblings and his mother. His father was deceased. He had a good upbringing despite being raised in an underprivileged family. At the time of the incident he lived alone in a wooden one room 'shack' at La Plaine. He is childless and is not in an intimate relationship. He has many friends in the community of La Plaine and he frequents the bars and attends community activities. He indicated to the social worker that whenever he was drunk he would go