

IN THE COUNTY COURT AT CENTRAL LONDON

Case No: G0IECI55

Courtroom No. 51

Thomas More Building  
Royal Courts of Justice  
Strand  
London  
WC2A 2LL

Thursday, 22<sup>nd</sup> October 2020

Before:  
HIS HONOUR JUDGE LETHEM

B E T W E E N:

LONDON BOROUGH OF TOWER HAMLETS

and

MISS KAREN PARKER

MR McBRIDE appeared on behalf of the Applicant  
The Respondent appeared in person.

JUDGMENT  
(Approved)

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HHJ LETHEM:

1. Karen Parker, you have been convicted of the allegations which I have just referred to. Cumulatively, it amounts to the fact that you have been swearing, shouting, making loud noises, being offensive towards the inhabitants of 12 Chancellor House and of the estate in January. I particularly take into account that you have destroyed the peace and tranquillity of the occupants of 12 Chancellor House.
2. You have by your conduct invaded their home. I sentence you therefore on that basis. I take into account that this is, in my judgement, in terms of the sentencing guideline Culpability B and Category 2, which would lead to a starting point of six weeks' custody.
3. I take into account the fact that these are not the first time that you have breached the injunction. This is the second time that you have been found to have breached the injunction. I take into account also that the first breach was in relation to matters directed towards the occupants of 12 Chancellor House. This is therefore a continuation of the conduct that led to your previous conviction.
4. I take the view that there is something of a vendetta aimed at the occupants of 12 Chancellor House by you to her. I take into account the effect that this has had upon the occupants in 12 Chancellor House. In particular, I have taken into account paragraph four of Miss Khanom's witness statement where she says this, 'On 29 July, Karen kept banging on my wall continually leaving me with a severe headache. I couldn't have any peace. It was Eid yesterday. I felt heartbroken. I could not invite my friends and my family due to Karen's ongoing disturbances'. You have prevented them from using their home as they wished at a time of significance for them.
5. I take into account the evidence that I heard that this is a consistent pattern. I take into account that these offences took place shortly after you have been convicted of the previous breaches. I take into account that this has been a persistent pattern.
6. Those are matters which severely aggravate the matters. I take into account also that this is aggression directed towards the occupants of 12 Chancellor House. I have considered what mitigation factors there are in connection with the case.
7. You pleaded not guilty to all the matters I therefore cannot allow any discount for plea. I take into account the fact that you are living alone, that this has been during the coronavirus lockdown and that that is a burden on anybody and upon their ability to deal with the vicissitudes of life. I therefore consider that there is a degree of mitigation in that respect. I make it clear that in sentencing you I have not taken into account your deplorable conduct in this court today.
8. I take into account also that you are already the subject of a 12-week suspended imprisonment sentence for a like offence committed not long before these matters. I have also taken into account, and it significantly reduces the sentence passed upon you, the fact that you are likely to be a vulnerable person, that this sentence takes place during the coronavirus pandemic and has been made clear by the higher courts, those are matters which the court ought to take into account.
9. Firstly, because the degree of apprehension for those who incarcerated in prison is that much higher. Secondly, because the conditions in prison are perhaps more draconian than would otherwise be the case. As I say, that significantly mitigates the sentence I would otherwise pass upon you.
10. For each of the offences that I have found proved I sentence you to eight weeks' imprisonment to run concurrently. I also activate the 12-week suspended sentence meaning that your total sentence is a 20-week suspension. I have taken into account that imprisonment is not the

- starting point and is not the automatic response to a contempt of court.
11. You have significantly passed the custody threshold. I have taken into account whether I could suspend the sentence. It is plain that that was the view that I took on the last occasion and that proved to be utterly ineffectual, putting your neighbours through the sort of difficulties which I have heard about in connection with this matter.
  12. In those circumstances, therefore, I am unable to suspend the sentence. You will therefore go to prison for 20 weeks. You will serve 10 weeks of that.

**End of Judgment**

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This transcript has been approved by the judge.