

**IN THE HIGH COURT OF THE FEDERAL CAPITAL TERRITORY,
IN THE ABUJA JUDICIAL DIVISION,
HOLDEN AT COURT NO. 8 APO, ABUJA.
BEFORE HIS LORDSHIP: HON. JUSTICE O. A. MUSA.**

CHARGE NO: FCT/HC/BW/CR/87/2021

BETWEEN:

FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA COMPLAINANT

AND

USMAN ABDULKAREEM DEFENDANT

JUDGMENT

DELIVERED ON 4TH OCTOBER, 2021

The defendant is charged with a one count charge as follows:-

That you Usman Abdulkareem sometime on 29th June, 2021, at Palm Estate Abuja within the jurisdiction of this Honourable Court, Wilfully obstructed one Detective Chalya Gurumnaan and other Operatives of Economic and Financial Crime Commission on investigative duties in exercise of the powers conferred on them by the Economic and Financial Crime Commission Act and thereby committed an offence contrary to Section 38 (2) (a) and punishable under Section 38(2)(b) of the Economic and Financial Crime Commission Establishment Act 2004.

The case came up for hearing on 4th October, 2021, the charge was read to the defendant and the defendant pleaded guilty to the charged.

The prosecutor Counsel informed the court that the parties have filed a plea bargain agreement dated and filed on 15th July, 2021 both parties adopt same.

Whereas:

The Defendant, Usman Abdulkareem is presently standing trial before this Honourable Court in respect of the offence of obstruction filed by the complaint.

That the Defendant has shown great remorse for his actions.

Counsel submits that the defendant by their letter dated 14th July, 2021 applied to the prosecution for a plea bargain and the prosecution has agreed to the request as stated herein.

That the defendant has also from the inception of the investigation up to the filing in court cooperated with the operatives of the EFCC (Nominal Complainant).

Counsel stated that there is also the need to avoid wastage of the precious judiciary machinery, time and manpower, and whereas the foregoing seeks to achieve the justice desired.

Finally, counsel submitted that the terms of this agreement shall form and constitute the judgment of this Honourable

Court, and no further charge shall arise against the Defendant in respect of this offence.

The parties, by mutual consent, have agreed as follows:-

1. That before the conclusion of this agreement the defendant was informed:
 - i. That he has a right to remain silent and of the consequences of not remaining silent, and
 - ii. That he is not obliged to make any confession or admission that would be used in evidence against him.
2. That the Defendant shall plead guilty to the charge before this Honourable Court.
3. That upon conviction, the Defendant shall be sentenced to a term of One (1) Month imprisonment or an option of fine to be determined by this Honourable court.

I have carefully understood the prayer for allucutus made by the defence counsel. I am aware that he is a first offender who regretted his actions.

To this end, I would like to warn him not to ever do such again. Meanwhile, haven found him guilty as charged, he is hereby sentenced to 2 months imprisonment at Kuje with an option of payment of sum of (N15, 000.00) Fifteen Thousand Naira only. I so ordered.

APPEARANCE:

Fatima M. Mustapha, Esq. for the Prosecution

Abdulsalam Mohammed Sani, Esq. for the Defendant.

Sign
Hon. Judge
04/10/2021