

KILKENNY COURT BRIEFS



Suspended sentence for driving without insurance

A motorist who drove while disqualified was handed down a three-month suspended sentence at Kilkenny District Court and was banned from driving for six years.

Patryk Granzul, Apt 2 Harrington Bookmakers, Green Street, Callan, Co Kilkenny was convicted of the offence at Castle Gardens, Kilkenny City on August 26, 2020.

The court heard that on the date in question gardai were carrying out a checkpoint at Kilkenny Castle. The defendant turned into a nearby housing estate, Castle Gardens.

Gardaí followed the car and demanded to see production of insurance from the driver.

The court heard that a garda did a check on the garda mobility app and that it appeared that the defendant was disqualified from driving at the time.

Solicitor Ed Hughes told the court that on the date in question the defendant's friend was tired and he 'took over the driving' adding that it is 'a very short drive from Callan to Kilkenny City'.



The case was before Judge Geraldine Carthy

"He was ignorant of the meaning of a disqualification and he heard that he had got a fine," Mr Hughes said referring to the fact that at the time of the offence his client was disqualified from driving.

The court heard that the defendant has two previous convictions for no insurance under section 56 of The Road Traffic Act.

Judge Geraldine Carthy described the offending behaviour as 'a flagrant breach of the law'.

The judge convicted the defendant of having no insurance and no valid driving licence on the date in question.

She imposed a three-month prison sentence, which she suspended subject to a number of conditions.

The judge also disqualified the defendant from driving for a period of six years.

Alleged assault causing harm and violent disorder

Two men accused of assault causing harm and violent disorder had their cases adjourned for the service of a book of evidence.

Kyle Dineen, Keatingstown, Knocktopher, Co Kilkenny and a co-accused Jamie O'Keefe, Loughbrack, Kilree, Kells, Stoneyford recently had their cases listed before Kilkenny District Court.

Both are both accused of assault causing harm and violent disorder at Springfields, Waterford Road, Kilkenny on May 31,

2020.

The alleged offences are contrary to section 3 of the Non Fatal Offences Against the Person Act 1997 and to section 15 of the Criminal Justice (Public Order) Act 1994.

Sergeant Morgan O'Connor outlined to the court that the DPP's directions were prosecution on indictment.

Judge Geraldine Carthy adjourned all matters before the court in respect of both of the co-accused to July 13, 2021 for the service of a book of evidence.

Prison sentence for verbal abuse

Previous convictions: The defendant has 63 previous convictions

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A man who attended Kilkenny County Council offices and verbally abused staff was sentenced to two months in prison.

William Harty, Killaloe, Kilmanagh was convicted of the public order offence at Kilkenny County Council offices at John's Green in Kilkenny City on June 23, 2020.

Sergeant Morgan O'Connor said that on the date in question the defendant had attended at the offices and was verbally abusive to staff. The court heard that he was homeless at the time and was looking for further accommodation.

Sgt O'Connor outlined to the court that at the time the defendant was suspected of damaging a house, belonging to the council, and was homeless due to damage that had been caused to his home.

The defendant has 63 previous convictions and is currently serving a five-year



The case was heard before Kilkenny District Court

prison sentence for endangerment and criminal damage at his family home at Killaloe which was imposed at Kilkenny Circuit Court last year.

Solicitor Chris Hogan said

that his client's house was damaged and that he was subsequently convicted of criminal damage and added that the conviction is under appeal.

Judge Geraldine Carthy

convicted the defendant of engaging in threatening, abusive and insulting behaviour under section 6 of The Public Order Act and sentenced him to two months in prison.

Public order case adjourned for probation report

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A man who stripped naked in front of gardai had his case adjourned at Kilkenny District Court.

Gerard O'Dowd, Ballinamona, Campile, New Ross, Co Wexford admitted being intoxicated in a public place and to engaging in threatening, abusive and insulting behaviour at St Mary's Lane in Kilkenny City on December 27, 2019.

Sergeant Morgan O'Connor told the court that at approximately 2am on the date in question gardai encountered the defendant who was being a nuisance to the public.

"He became irate and was shouting obscenities and he took all his clothes off. He stood in front of a female garda with all his clothes off and refused to put them back



The case has been adjourned until July

on," said Sgt O'Connor.

The court heard that the defendant has seven previous convictions.

Solicitor Ed Hughes said that his client admitted that he had 'far too much to drink

on the night in question.

"As he was walking home he came across an incident where someone was being badly assaulted," he said.

Gardaí attended the scene and met with the defendant

and asked to do a drugs search. Mr Hughes said that his client was 'pleading his innocence' to gardai and proceeded to take all his clothes off.

Mr Hughes said that his client accepts that his behaviour was unacceptable.

"He was homeless at the time. He is now living with his parents. He has been drug and alcohol free for the past two years and is in a much better place now," he said.

Judge Geraldine Carthy remarked that the explanation 'was not an excuse' and added that she found his behaviour 'completely and utterly unacceptable'.

"You are a father and are supposed to be showing a good path. I am considering a custodial sentence," she said and adjourned matters to July 20 for the preparation of a probation report.

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