

JERSEY / JUDGMENT

AG -v- Curtis [2005] JRC 113 (16 August 2005)

[2005] JRC 113

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JUDGMENT

THE BAILIFF: 1. This is a young man of 31 who has been a drug abuser for 15 years and has been addicted to heroin for more than 10 years. He claims that he had cured himself of the habit, but relapsed in December 2004. He built up a debt of about £1,000 and claims that he succumbed to threats from his dealer and agreed to sell ecstasy on the streets in order to satisfy outstanding debts. 2. At the time of his arrest he was found in possession of 71 tablets of ecstasy with a street value of just over £700 and cash of £720. He has a number of previous convictions including two for drugs offences. Applying the test as to the degree to which the defendant was involved in drug trafficking the answer must be that he was involved to a moderate extent. He was a dealer at the street level. The guideline case of Bonnar and Noon -v- A. G. (2001 JLR 626) gives a starting point of between 7 and 9 years' imprisonment for trafficking of up to 500 tablets of a Class A drug. 3. We think that the appropriate starting point in this case is one of 7 years' imprisonment. In mitigation Curtis is still a relatively young man and has pleaded guilty to the indictment. He has expressed a determination to overcome his addiction and the tests in the prison have all been negative. He had asked for help from the Alcohol and Drugs Service shortly before his arrest but had been told that he must return at a later stage. 4. Curtis, you knew that in selling drugs on the street you were committing a serious offence and risking a sentence of imprisonment. We have given full weight to all the mitigating circumstances outlined by your counsel and in the reports, and the sentence of the Court is that you will go to prison for 4 years. We order the forfeiture and destruction of the drugs. Authorities Bonnar and Noon -v- A. G. (2001 JLR 626). Page Last Updated: 18 Aug 2015 BAILII: Copyright Policy | Disclaimers | Privacy Policy | Feedback | Donate to BAILII

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