

ROYAL COURT

202A.

4th December, 1989

Before: The Bailiff, and the
Superior Number of the Court

A.G. -v- Denis Jeffrey Godwin

Sentencing on two indictments comprising the following: one count of grave and criminal assault; one count of assault; one count of carrying an offensive weapon, contrary to Article 27 of the Firearms (Jersey) Law, 1956; ten counts of forgery; ten counts of uttering and obtaining money on a forged document; one count of larceny.

Advocate S.C. Nicolle for the Crown
Advocate W.A.M. Bridgeford for the Accused.

JUDGMENT

THE BAILIFF: Godwin, we have considered this case very carefully, but we have come to the conclusion that what you did as regards the fraud was embarked upon quite deliberately. You went to the house with that in mind and you used your position as a friend of the family to steal these cheques and forge them and we cannot think that eighteen months' imprisonment is too long. So far as the other offences are concerned, we feel able, Mr. Bridgeford, to

make a slight reduction in the conclusions. Having said that we have looked at the Probation Report most carefully to see if overall we could perhaps have placed your client on probation, but we really cannot; these offences are too serious and his record litigates against him. We do not think we can take the calculated risk you are asking us to do. He has had two cases of probation in the last few years and a third one is really not going to achieve very much and, indeed, it would be against the recommendations of the Probation Service. Under the circumstances as far as the second indictment is concerned, on Count 1, you are sentenced to twelve months' imprisonment; on Count 2, you are sentenced to twelve months' imprisonment; on Count 3, you are sentenced to six months' imprisonment, concurrent with each other but consecutive to the first indictment, therefore you are sentenced to a total of two and a half years' imprisonment.

Authorities referred to:-

Thomas' Principles of Sentencing at p.189 re. "Alcoholism" and at pp.20-25 inclusive re. "the intermediate recidivist" and "the inadequate recidivist".

R. -v- Adamson (1988) 10 Cr. App. R. (S) 305.

R. -v- Bradley (1983) 5 Cr. App. R. (S) 363.