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C J Sprokkelenburg - Infraction of Article 7 (1) of the
Housing (Jersey) Law, 1949, as amended

BAILIFF: Well, Mr Sprokkelenburg, we have no hesitation in fining you the amount which the Attorney General has asked for; any infraction of the Housing Regulations by people who are not qualified to occupy premises which should be occupied by persons who are qualified is a serious matter and we are quite satisfied that you did lie to begin with and that you knew that you should not be there and you were taking up accommodation which should have been occupied by somebody who was qualified, so we have no hesitation ... we have always taken a serious view of this thing. Mr Sutton was quite right to make it clear to you that it was a serious matter and we have no hesitation in saying that it is right that you should now be fined the sum of £500, and also the sum of £50 by way of costs.

It has got to be made quite clear to anybody in your position that they are committing a serious offence and, if caught, they will have to pay a substantial fine.

Now, the Attorney General has asked that if you don't pay the fine or can't pay the fine, you will go to prison for three months. Now, we understand your financial situation, we are prepared to allow you time to pay off the fine and the costs and we are going to allow you to pay it off at the rate of £10 a week. Right. Now, the position is you will pay ... you get paid today? You can pay £10 now, can't you? That's right. Now, you will pay £10 a week to the Viscount's Department which is the department immediately below here, £10 a week until it is paid off, until the fine of £500 and the costs of £50 are paid off. Now, you pay that at the rate of £10 a week and you have got to come into the Viscount's Department every Friday or any other day that you make arrangements with the Viscount's Department and you pay off at the rate of £10 a week, do you understand?

Now, the further thing I have to say to you is this - that if you fail on any week to pay £10 a week, you are liable to be sent to prison to serve a proportionate time in prison proportionate to the amount of the fine still remaining unpaid. Do you understand that? So as long as you keep paying at the rate of £10 a week, you will not be taken to prison. Is that quite clear? Very well, that's all, then. So you pay your first £10 today to the Viscount's Department on the ground floor.