

REGINA v JOHN WALE

Criminal Case No. 645/2021

Court: Central Magistrates' Court

Prosecutor: Ms Pellie

Defence: Mr. Weago

Coram: Ricky Iomea - DCM



SENTENCE

You appear this afternoon for sentence after you have pleaded guilty to the charge of breaching the Restriction of Movement of Persons in Honiara contrary to Clause 4 (1) and (2) (a) and (b) of the Emergency Powers (COVID-19) (Honiara Emergency Zone) (Restriction of Movement) Order 2021 and Regulation 15 (1) (a), (2) and (4) of the Emergency Powers (COVID-19) (No. 2) Regulations 2021.

On 30<sup>th</sup> August 2021 at 12:41 am you were found by Police not at your place of residence or home at Tinge Ridge. You were found walking along the Tinge main road, an area designated as an Emergency Zone during the restricted period. You had no lawful excuse to be there.

Whilst there is still no community transmission of COVID-19, your action shows disregard for measures put by the Government, which are necessary in preparing frontline agencies to combat any community transmission of this deadly COVID-19 in the country.

I repeat what I have said in the previous cases that everyone should understand that orders made by the Government during this Emergency period are for the good of everyone and the nation. Our obligation is to obey them. If you fail then, you will face consequences that you do not desire.

You have pleaded guilty to the offence at the first available opportunity. It is submitted by your Lawyer that you are sorry for breaching the order. I will give you credit for that. You are a young man and you work in public bus, collecting fares from passengers.

Having considered the facts of the case, your plea of guilty and the need for punishment and need to deter deliberate breaches of such orders in the future, I will impose a fine of \$600.00 in your case. In default, thirty days imprisonment. The fine is payable by close of business on 23/9/21.

