



VERA BAIRD^{QC}
POLICE & CRIME COMMISSIONER

Judgements Made by Judge George Moorhouse – Domestic Violence

Ryan Phillips

Summary/Facts

Ryan Phillips and Ms Samijo Glenton attended a party separately in October 2013.

An argument ensued outside of the pub toilets between the pair. Mr Phillips then walked away and was pursued by Ms Glenton. CCTV showed Mr Phillips sitting down and being confronted by Ms Glenton. When Mr Phillips stood up Ms Glenton Grabbed him by the arm. Mr Phillips stated that he thought he was about to be glassed by Ms Glenton.

A further struggle ensued and Mr Phillips punched and kicked Ms Glenton resulting in significant blood loss from Ms Glenton's nose and a brief loss of consciousness.

Sentencing

The defence stated that a pre-sentence report had recommended a suspended sentence for Mr Phillips.

Judge George Moorhouse commented that "Anyone who uses their feet deserves to go to prison, it is a serious matter."

Phillips, of Uvedale Road, South Bank, was given a six month jail sentence suspended for 12 months with supervision and a community domestic violence programme after a Teesside Crown Court jury found him guilty last month of actual bodily harm assault, which he had denied.

Michael Brown

Summary/Facts

Mr Michael Brown erupted into a drunken rage following a reconciliation meeting with the mother of his children Ms Cerie Daniel.

Mr Brown grabbed Ms Daniel and punched and kicked her. Ms Daniels two friends who were present intervened and were also attacked by Mr Brown leaving one of them with a bruised forehead.

Sentencing

Judge George Moorhouse Mr Brown a three-month sentence, suspended for a year, with supervision and a domestic violence programme after he admitted three charges of assault. Mr Brown was also ordered to pay £350 compensation to Miss Daniel and £100 each to her friends.

Miss Daniel said that she was "devastated" and added: "He always seems to get away with it." Brown's lawyer Rachel Dyson said he had matured after running up a long criminal record in his teens. She added: "He is proud of himself for keeping out of trouble for three years. He is disappointed with himself for marring that good run."

Prosecutor Yvonne Taylor said Brown's previous offences included wounding when he threw a knife at a man which stuck in his skull.

Following sentencing Mr Brown left court and crowed: "I haven't even got community service, or anything" and then did an "Irish jig" with friends joining in as he left Teesside Crown Court.

Martin Clarkson

Summary/Facts

Mr Martin Clarkson attacked his ex-wife of two years Ms Sarah Dowse in the street whilst she was walking her dogs using a pocket knife to repeatedly stab her in the head. The victim also suffered a fractured cheekbone in the attack. The attack only ceased when Mr Clarkson was overpowered by a member of the public.

Following the attack Mr Clarkson attended the home of another former wife and asked "have the police been?", before describing how he had given Ms Dowse's face 'a good kicking'.

The defence team stated that due to the relationship breakdown custody Mr Clarkson was at an all-time low and disagreements over the custody of the couple's two dogs had sent his client over the edge.

Sentencing

Judge George Moorhouse issued a 15 month suspended sentence after he admitted GBH including imposing a restraining order and supervision to include alcohol treatment. Judge Moorhouse told Clarkson: 'It is a very sad day when someone of your age with no previous convictions comes before the court for the first time.'

Anthony James

Summary/Facts

The court heard that Mr and Mrs James had been together for four years and had been married for a year before the relationship started to break down. Mrs James blamed her husband's "controlling and manipulative" behaviour for the problems in their marriage.

Mr Anthony James bombarded his estranged wife with text messages and was given a police caution for harassment of his estranged wife and her new partner. Five days after receiving the caution for harassment he threatened to damage the car of Ms James new partner.

Upon seeing Ms James driving her car he then rammed the car with his own.

Mr James has been previously convicted in 2005 for assaulting a different ex-partner.

Sentencing

In court Mr James pleaded guilty to dangerous driving and harassment of his estranged wife.

Judge Moorhouse stated that, these are very serious offences, offences which could justify a lengthy custodial sentence. "However, I have read the report about you. You have pleaded guilty and have been out of trouble for the past five years."

Judge George Moorhouse imposed a six-month prison sentence, suspended for two years, ordered to carry out 100 hours of unpaid community work, two years of supervision and a restraining order for five years as well as a 12 month driving ban.

Anthony Bruce

Summary/Facts

Mr Anthony Bruce bit and throttled his wife, before holding a knife to her throat and shooting her with a pellet gun after being told that she was leaving him.

Holding a knife with a 20cm-long blade to her throat, Bruce said: "I'm going to top you and then top myself. If I can't have you, nobody will." He also threatened to scald his victim with boiling water and grabbed a pellet gun and told her he would put a bullet "straight through your eye into your brain".

Bruce then shot his wife in the foot, before she managed to grab the gun and hide it, the court heard.

The court also heard that Bruce had phoned his ex-wife and tried to warn her off testifying against him. He told her: "Drop the charges or I'm going to torch..." The woman hung up before he could finish his threat.

Sentencing

Mr Bruce initially pleaded not guilty but changed his plea on the last day of the trial and pleaded guilty to assault occasioning actual bodily harm and witness intimidation.

During sentencing Judge George Moorhouse stated that "Fortunately the injuries were not serious, and most importantly, you have been out of trouble for seven years". Judge Moorhouse then imposed a 12 month suspended sentence.

Following sentencing Mr Bruce took to social media where he posted "The cunt didn't win, I'm free."