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ROYAL COURT

18th November, 1988

Before: The Deputy Bailiff and
Jurats Lucas and Bonn

Her Majesty's Attorney General

- v -

Graham Frank Alderson

Sentence of 15 months'
imprisonment imposed
following guilty plea to
6 counts of embezzlement

H.M. Attorney General for the Crown
Advocate C.J. Dorey for the accused.

JUDGMENT

DEPUTY BAILIFF: This Court is not going to depart from the very clearly stated policy of the Superior Number. There are, in this case, some mitigating factors but no exceptional circumstances. We must make the point again that drink in relation to criminal offences is an aggravating factor and not an excuse that carries any weight. In our view the police officer overstressed the matter of co-operation. Alderson must have known from the outset that there were more than three cases and that there was much more than £1,900 involved. He did not make a clean breast of the kind that

earns sympathy and understanding. We do think, however, that he has been well served by his counsel, who advanced every possible argument and we have considered all the papers included in the bundle. Nevertheless we are satisfied that the Attorney General has given full weight to all the mitigating factors, including the restitution made. Therefore the conclusions are granted. Alderson, on Count 1 you are sentenced to fifteen months' imprisonment; on each of Counts 2 to 6 inclusive, you are likewise sentenced to fifteen months' imprisonment on each, concurrent with each other, and concurrent also with the sentence on Count 1 to make a total of fifteen months' imprisonment.

Authorities:

Thomas: Principles of Sentencing: p.p. 207-8: Mitigation: Financial Difficulties; p.p. 50-52: Relevance of offender's conduct during proceedings.

A.G. -v- Prisk (05 Aug '88) Unreported No. 160 (88/26).