

IN THE CENTRAL CRIMINAL COURT

THE KING

V

EVAN MARVON FORDE

SENTENCING REMARKS

1. Maria Carolina Do Nascimento Miguel was 22 years old when she was killed by a dangerous driver on Christmas Day 2022.
2. Clezi Felizari describes Maria as not just her daughter but also as her pride, her joy and her future, as well as her best friend and confidante. Maria wanted to grow in life and build a bright future. Mrs Felizari, and the whole family, now have to live with a void in their lives which will never be filled.
3. Clayton Felizari describes his daughter as sweet, but also strong and determined. Maria had been accepted to study Business Management at university and wanted to help him in his restaurant business. Maria loved children, but both parents now have to live with the deepest sorrow that their beloved child was taken from them before she could start a family of her own.
4. Both Maria's parents have suffered unimaginably from the cruel loss of their daughter and the impact on them, the wider family and Maria's friends, has been devastating.
5. Maria could not tolerate injustice. The fact that her family and friends have had to wait nearly 3 years for Maria's killer to be brought to justice is shameful. A judge cannot repair the damage caused by the loss of a child's life but a measure of justice will be done today.
6. Maria was a passenger in a car driven by her partner of two years, Lucas Campos Da Silva. They had spent the evening at her father's restaurant and then at her parents'

home. Having left that address at about 03.20 he was driving his BMW along the A41 in Hendon when, as he was about to turn left, another vehicle crashed into them from behind. He lost consciousness for a while and all he remembers is that, when he came to, Maria was injured but still alive, and he tried to reassure her. In due course, he passed a breathalyser test.

7. When police arrived at the scene of the collision they could see that Maria was very seriously injured and appeared to be in cardiac arrest. They removed her from the BMW and began CPR.
8. Whilst decent people tried to help, all the occupants of the Mercedes car which had caused the collision, ran off.
9. Maria was assisted by paramedics and also HEMS, but, sadly, despite all their efforts she died very quickly. The medical cause of her death was a combination of head and cervical spine injuries caused by a high energy impact to the back of the BMW vehicle in which she was a passenger.
10. There is much more to this dreadful incident than the final and fatal collision.
11. You had been at a nightclub in Camden until about 03.30.
12. At about 03.42 a marked police vehicle was on patrol in Camden. At the junction of Finchley Road and Fortune Green Road they saw your black Mercedes vehicle driving northwards at excessive speed and with a loud exhaust. The police followed the vehicle which was being driven by you, and contained 3 passengers. The police used their blue lights and sirens to get you to stop on Hendon Way.
13. You did pull over but you did not turn the engine off. One of the officers approached your car and motioned you to turn the engine off. Your car stayed there for 16 seconds. As the officer put his hand on the passenger door handle, the car crept forward and then, with maximum acceleration, you drove away, pulling the officer's body forward. He banged on the window and shouted "Stop", but you sped off pulling him along for about 6-8 feet. Those officers called in your failure to stop and 3 minutes later they learned of the fatal collision further along Hendon Way.
14. I have watched Body Warn Camera footage of the police stop and CCTV footage of you

racing along Hendon Way, which has a 40 mph speed limit. It is brief but horrifying.

15. Your car was an AMG C43 Bi-Turbo 4-matic variant, with a very powerful 3 litre engine, capable of acceleration from 0-60 mph in 4.7 seconds. In the 44 seconds it took your car to get to Brent Cross your average speed was 114 mph. After that, at one point your speed reached 141 mph. At the time of impact, you had braked for 6.5 seconds, and reached a speed of 105 mph.
16. The BMW had been driving at 37 mph.
17. You were eventually arrested on 27 December 2022, after you attended Wembley Police Station. In your interviews, you said nothing of any use to the police nor anything which might help Maria's family and loved ones come to terms with their trauma. Your unforthcoming attitude meant that forensic work was necessary to confirm your identity as the driver. That work, and other evidence found in the car established what you did not formally admit until this year. So much for remorse.
18. There is evidence that might suggest one or more of your group took illegal drugs that evening. A later search revealed cannabis in your car. I cannot be sure that it was yours or that you took any, but that evidence may explain why you drove the car away from the police. On the other hand, it now turns out that you were on bail for another driving offence. Either way you did not wish to speak to the police.
19. It was not until 22 July 2025 that you appeared in court. The reasons for that unconscionable delay include the expert work that was necessary to establish fully what you could easily have admitted at the time. It seems that an informal indication of a likely guilty plea "on a basis" was given at that time. On 19 August 2025 your case was listed for PTPH and you pleaded guilty. No basis of plea has been served. Your sentence was adjourned to enable you to serve expert reports. No such report has been served.
20. For the purposes of the offence guideline, there is no dispute that this was a category A case. That indicates a starting point of 12 years imprisonment, with a range of 8-18 years.
21. The aggravating factors are the grossly excessive speed at which you drove; the fact that you were evading the police; the fact that the driving was persistent and deliberate over a distance of about 2 miles. The traffic on the roads along which you raced may

have been relatively quiet but there were other vehicles around and people in them were obviously put at risk by your driving. The people put at risk include Mr Campos Da Silva and the passengers in your own car. Rather than wait for the police and emergency services to arrive, you took to your heels.

22. To make matters worse, you were not a man of good character. Specifically, you have convictions for dangerous and careless driving, as well as failing to stop. In April of 2022 you failed to provide a specimen when stopped in the same Mercedes. Soon afterwards you admitted having cannabis with you on that occasion but you strung out the prosecution of the more serious charge until January of this year when you pleaded guilty on the day of trial. That means that when you killed Maria Do Nascimento you were on court bail for a serious driving offence.

23. These aggravating factors drive this case to the top of the range, namely 18 years.

24. You were 29 at the time, 32 now and so there is no mitigation from your age. You have a large and loving family many of whom have written heartfelt letters in your support. I accept the genuineness of their feelings. You are capable of working and, hopefully, you will do so on release. You have a family to support who will have to manage without your help for some time. I note the medical report about you, although your counsel accepts that your issues provide no excuse for your actions on this occasion. I take on board how you have also suffered the consequences as a victim of serious violence and that your judgment has been impaired as a result. I accept that you now feel remorse.

25. Before credit for plea, the sentence would be 16 years imprisonment.

26. Because you did plead guilty and have, late in the day, expressed remorse, I shall not treat you as a statutorily dangerous offender.

27. However, the maximum discount for you plea of guilty is 25%. There was nothing to stop you directly or through your lawyers making it clear very early on that you accepted you were the driver and that, as the CCTV footage clearly shows, you were driving dangerously. No expert was needed to tell you that. The law is clear that vague and informal "indications" – even those mentioned on the relevant court form – are not enough to secure full discount.

28. In relation to the obligatory disqualification, I have had regard to the guideline. The public would be safest if you never drove again but I must take account of rehabilitation as well as punishment.

29. **Sentence:**

12 years imprisonment.

Disqualified from driving: 10 years, extension of 8 years.

Extended test.

VS

PHILIP KATZ KC.

22 October 2025.