

## Rex -v- Pamela Gwinnett

Pamela Gwinnett, you have been convicted unanimously by the jury in your absence of counts 1 and 3 on the indictment. I discharged the jury from reaching a verdict on count 2 because of the evidential deficits in relation to the issue of intimidation. The Crown have now offered no evidence on that count and thus I formally enter a not guilty verdict on count 2.

In relation to indictment 06KK0409124, a separate fraud allegation concerning a passport you obtained – the Crown have also offered no evidence. In light of the sentence I am about to impose and any further sentence imposed for the Bail Act offence, I agree it is not in the public interest to prosecute you and I also formally enter a not guilty verdict on that indictment.

I address you as though you are present in the court room as it may be that you read a transcript of these sentencing remarks in due course when you are eventually apprehended.

I know full that you are in Tenerife and you have been there since April. Your application to vary your bail conditions to go to Tenerife - purportedly to scatter your brother's ashes - was refused on 2<sup>nd</sup> April 2025. You ignored that court order and boarded a plane 5 hours later. I issued a bench warrant for your arrest on 10<sup>th</sup> April after you fail to attend on 8<sup>th</sup> April 2025. You have been at large since that day. You have treated this process as you did Joan Green with utter

contempt. From your remote location you have continued to instruct your legal team

## I turn to the facts:

Joan Green, who lived at South Lodge, Wigan Lane, Chorley was described by her family and by professionals who cared for her as a lovely woman. She was 11 days shy of her 90<sup>th</sup> birthday when she died in November 2022. Unfortunately, the last years of her life were pock marked with increasing periods of bewilderment and confusion

You were not a professional carer — you occasionally did some shopping and light cleaning for Joan and her late husband Stanley. You came to realise that Joan Green was a wealthy individual. I note that her death certificate at Q170 of the digital case system states she was a retired accountant and her husband was a senior manager at British Aerospace. Both had worked hard during their working lives and they had invested carefully and shrewdly for their old age. But to you, Joan Green was simply a cash cow to be milked until she was dry. And so having inveigled your way into their lives behind the charade that you were a benevolent friend to Joan, you set about playing the long game to isolate and control a vulnerable woman and thereby enrich yourself.

The masquerade was so successful that she made you a lasting power of attorney within a relatively short time of knowing you.

The fly in the ointment for you however was that Joan also appointed her step daughter Katherine Farrimond as a lasting power of attorney.

For your plan to be successful, you needed to have sole power of attorney. And so you connived to isolate Joan from her family and friends. You made bogus allegations of impropriety against Ms. Farrimond and Mr. Boulton, Joan's step grandchild. You falsely claimed they had stolen Joan's pension money, you falsely claimed that they had stolen money arising out of the sale of cars belonging to Joan and you falsely claimed that they neglected Joan over the Christmas period of 2019

The allegations you made meant that Katherine Farrimond and David Boulton had the ignominy of being investigated by Social Services. Ms. Farrimond was understandably upset by these allegations but you achieved your aim of having her lasting power of attorney removed.

Shortly before the country locked down with the Covid Pandemic in March 2020, you transferred Joan into the Grove House Nursing Home, Adlington. David Watson was Joan's gardener at South Lodge. He was a long standing friend to Joan and Stanley and so you summarily dismissed him and organised other gardeners to work the plot .

Moving Joan to Grove House was a deliberate ploy to keep control of her because the nursing home was a stone's throw from your address in Adlington – the very same property that was the subject of a planning application in August 2019 involving substantial renovations. Whilst I have no evidence that any of those renovations

were actually undertaken, I am quite sure that you intended Joan to foot the bill for any such construction work.

Once the country emerged from lockdown a year later, you immediately took Joan back to her home at South Lodge in Chorley. You did not inform her friends and family that you had removed her — on the contrary, you instructed the carer Ms. Magadada to refuse them entry, you padlocked the gates and changed the landline number in order to isolate your golden goose. You even told the carer Susan Gill that David Boulton had threatened to kill Joan and so she was deceived into refusing Joan access to family and friends.

When one of the carers overheard Joan asking you why her family didn't come around anymore, you sought to brainwash her saying they are not good enough for you. You controlled the use of her bank cards and you prevented her from seeing any banking staff about her money. To be blunt, she was under your thumb.

In the last year or so of her life, Joan became increasingly frail and she was doubly incontinent.

The professional live in carers were entitled to two hours break per day. You took over for those two hours and charged Joan for it. She became increasingly agitated as your shift loomed nearer and little wonder. You provided no care for her at all. You bullied her and she was frightened of you. On one occasion, Ms. Magadada found to her horror that you had left Joan covered in her own faeces in bed at the end of your two hour shift. On another occasion, you barked at her to relieve herself in her incontinent pad.

Ms. Magadada was justifiably concerned that you posed a threat to Joan and thus she surreptitiously made arrangements for the family to come and visit Joan on her last day 18<sup>th</sup> June 2021. In my

judgment that was a courageous act on the part of Ms. Magadada because it is clear that you are an intimidating woman.

When you arrived an hour later, you were enraged that she had allowed the family into the house. I have watched the 26 minute video recording of your behaviour in the house. You berate the family with allegations of impropriety and seek to intimidate them by reference to the solicitors you have engaged and the support you sought from the MP, Sir Lindsay Hoyle, Speaker of the House who was ignorant of your deception. But the family are not cowed by you. They retreat from the house only because Joan is becoming increasingly upset. She can be heard to say on the recording that she doesn't know what is going on and makes reference to money troubles that she believes she has despite being a wealthy woman.

Watching you on that video Ms. Gwinnett, there was in my judgment a self assured shamelessness to your fraudulent activity – to use the colloquialism you have some brass neck Ms. Gwinnett.

On the 25<sup>th</sup> March 2022, the Court of Protection determined Joan Green had no capacity and thus suspended your POWER OF ATTORNEY. By this time you had amassed over £161k but the loss of the POWER OF ATTORNEY did not deter you – you were greedy for more.

5 months later you opened a joint account in your name and Joan Green. You transferred Joan's money into that joint account and then siphoned off £119k for your own benefit both when she was alive and after her death. The value of the theft in count 3 is 134k. All told, you plundered Joan and her estate for nearly £300k.

You used Joan's money to advance your extravagant lifestyle, you bought yourself a 22.5k motor vehicle and pretended its primary purpose was for the carers to use to transport Joan. You paid substantial mortgage payments for properties you owed and you enjoyed expensive meals and beauty and Botox treatments

I have read the victim personal statement of Ms. Farrimond on behalf of the family. They are devastated by the fact that Joan in the fog of her deteriorating mental health may well have believed the lies you were pedalling and made her isolation all the more solitary and lonely.

Your manipulative interference with the process of probate meant two of the genuine beneficiaries were denied their inheritance because they have subsequently died.

Having regard to the totality of your offending behaviour, I take the lead offence as count 1. There is no dispute that this is a 2A offence on the fraud sentencing guidelines with a starting point of 5 years.

Unusually there are 4 aspects of high culpability in this case.

- 1. Abuse of position of power or trust or responsibility
- 2. Sophisticated nature of offence / significant planning. I include within that the fact that you sought to blame others for alleged impropriety
- 3. Fraudulent activity conducted over a sustained period of time.
- 4. You deliberately targeted your victim on the basis of her vulnerability

I agree with the prosecution that I am also entitled to move up the range having regard to the high impact on your victim who was

particularly vulnerable due to her age, mental capacity and her physical ailments.

The only mitigation in this case is the absence of any previous convictions. Mr. Doran reminds me that the Crown conceded that not all of the entries in spreadsheet B were necessarily for your benefit but given the nature of Ms. Green's lifestyle I am sure that the vast majority of the entries related to you.

Having regard to the totality of your offending behaviour, I sentence you to 6 years imprisonment on count 1 and 4 years concurrent on count 3. It would have been 6 years and 3 months but I have reduced your sentence by 3 months because you have no previous convictions.

The victim surcharge will not be applied at the moment as I have set a timetable for a determination to be made under the Proceeds of Crime Act.

By way of post script, I sincerely hope that Ms. Gwinnett is extradited back to the UK to serve this sentence for these egregious offences. It is an affront to justice and the rule of law for this Defendant to be allowed to remain in Tenerife. I will require a letter from the CPS by the 16th January 2026 indicating what efforts they have made to engage with their Spanish counterparts to have Ms. Gwinnett returned to the UK.

I direct that a copy of my sentencing remarks be made and provided to Joan's step daughter, Katherine Farrimond. I said earlier that Ms. Gwinnett sought to engage the assistance of Sir Lindsay Hoyle MP on an entirely false basis. The jury's verdict has exposed the real criminal from Sir Lindsay's constituency and thus it may well be that Ms. Farrimond equipped with a copy of my sentencing remarks invites Sir Lindsay and the Press to assist and urge the relevant authorities to repatriate Ms. Gwinnett to the UK so that justice is served.

I wish to thank both counsel for their professionalism in this case, to thank the officer PC Loughton for her investigation of the matter and again I thank you members of the jury for the care and attention you gave to this disturbing case.

**HHJ Michael Maher** 

9th October 2025