

**IN THE SUPREME COURT OF TONGA
CRIMINAL JURISDICTION
NUKU'ALOFA REGISTRY**

CR 73 of 2019

REX

-v-

'ILEANA SULIANA TAULUA

VERDICT

BEFORE: LORD CHIEF JUSTICE WHITTEN
Counsel: Mr J. Lutui DPP with Mr T. 'Aho for the Prosecution
Mr W.C. Edwards Snr SC for the Accused
Date of trial: 1, 9, 10 and 11 June 2020
Date of verdict: 11 June 2020


- A. The accused pleaded not guilty to an indictment containing five counts of making a false declaration for the purpose of obtaining a passport contrary to s.21(1)(a) of the *Passport Act* and one count of possession of an unlawfully issued passport contrary to s.21(1)(f) of the said Act ("count 6").
- B. The Crown did not lead any evidence in respect of count 6 and it was thereby dismissed.
- C. At the conclusion of the trial of the remaining five counts, I delivered an ex tempore verdict. The transcript of the reasons for verdict will be edited as to form, not substance, and once settled, will be distributed to the parties and published.

Verdict

- 1. On each of the five counts of making a false declaration for the purpose of obtaining a passport contrary to s.21(1)(a) of the *Passport Act*, I find the accused **not guilty**.

NUKU'ALOFA
11 June 2020




M.H. Whitten QC
LORD CHIEF JUSTICE

11 JUN 2020
