Court Summons Details

2 individuals involved; James Lawless and Jason Lawless (father and son) - convicted on all counts (pleaded guilty).

Jason, the son also received a 3 month suspended jail sentence and was fined €100 and banned from keeping birds for the rest of his life.

The District Court Judge is going to ban him from keeping any animals (including dogs). When the one he has dies.

Summons 1 possession of goldfinches - Section 31:

That you did have in your possession live perching birds to wit 22 goldfinches to which section 31 of the Wildlife Act, 1976 as amended by section 39 of the Wildlife (Amendment) Act, 2000 applies other than close-ringed specimens bred in captivity contrary to Section 31 of the Wildlife Act, 1976, as amended by Section 39 of the Wildlife Amendment Act 2000

Summons 2, Licenced Wildlife Dealer Sec 45:

As Mr Jason Lawless is not a licensed wildlife dealer; I recommend that in relation to the possession of the above 22 goldfinches, that he is charged under Sec 45 of the Wildlife Acts 1976 and 2000

That you not being a licenced Wildlife Dealer, did on the 14th March 2017 have in your possession protected wild birds, to wit 22 goldfinches in contravention of Section 45 (2) of the Wildlife Act, 1976 as amended by Section 51 (b) of the Wildlife Amendment Act 2000 and contrary to Section 45 (7) of the Wildlife Act 1976 as amended by Section 51 (d) of the Wildlife (Amendment) Act 2000

Summons 3; in relation to the 2 tubes of Rat Glue

I recommend he is charged under the following section; Section 34; That you did on the 14th of March have in your possession 2 tubes of glue trap; a substance of a like nature to birdlime other than in pursuant to and in accordance with a licence granted by the Minister for Arts, Heritage, Regional, Rural & Gaeltacht Affairs in that behalf, which pursuant to Section 34 (4) of the Wildlife Act 1976 as amended by Section 42 (f) of the Wildlife (Amendment) Act 2000 is for the time being declared by the Minister to be a trap to which Section 34 (6) of the Wildlife 1976 as substituted by Section 42 (f) of the Wildlife (Amendment) Act 2000 applies contrary to Section 34 (6) of the Wildlife Act 1976 as substituted by Section 42 (f) of the Wildlife (Amendment) Act, 2000

Summons 4; in relation to hunting a protected wild bird

That you did on the 14th of March 2017 hunt a protected wild bird to wit goldfinches other than a protected wild bird, which is of a species specified in an order under Section 24 of the Wildlife Acts, 1976 and 2000 and otherwise than under and in accordance with a permission or licence granted by the Minister for Arts, Heritage, Regional, Rural & Gaeltacht Affairs under the said Acts, contrary to Section 22 (4)(a)(1) of the Wildlife Acts 1976 and 2000

Summons 4; relates to aid and abet

In relation to the activity of finch trapping on the residential property of Mr James Lawless, who was identified to me as the father of Mr Jason Lawless, I recommend he is charged under Section 69 (1)

Mr James Lawless. That you did on the 14th of March aid abet and procure the commission of an offence under the Wildlife Acts 1976 - 2012 to wit, the trapping of protected wild birds contrary to section 31 of the Wildlife Act, 1976 as amended by section 39 of the Wildlife (Amendment) Act, 2000 other than close-ringed specimens bred in captivity contrary to Section 22 (4)(a)(1) of the Wildlife Acts 1976 and 2000