

The respondent opposes the application. That the reasons given by the applicant are not plausible.

Under Section 31 of **the Criminal Procedure Code Act**, this Court has the mandate to extend time within which to file an appeal. It is a discretionary power which is exercised where good cause is established. Such good cause would ordinarily include evidence to show that the applicant has not been dilatory in his actions and has, by sufficient reason, been prevented from acting within the 14 days within which he should lodge the Notice of Appeal.

In this instant case the sentence was handed down on the 16th of December 2019. This application was filed in this case on the 6th of February 2020. The applicant had however put his papers before the OC Prison for sanctioning on the 21st of January 2020.

From all the circumstances shown in the evidence adduced in the affidavit, it is my view that this is a proper case for extension. The holiday season is notoriously slow in Uganda and many public offices operate at a fraction of their usual capacity. That explains the complaints cited which prevented the applicant to file a notice within the 14 days.

In view of the above the application to extend time within which to appeal is hereby granted.

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Michael Elubu

Judge

19.3.21