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Supreme Court judge orders pathological gambler Harry Kakavas to repay \$1.2m debt to Bahamas casino

A PATHOLOGICAL millionaire gambler has been ordered to repay \$1.2 million to a casino at a luxury Bahamas resort.

A Victorian Supreme Court judge today found that Harry Kakavas was liable for the debt, lost in just five hours at the in November 2006.

Justice Jennifer Davies found there was no merit in Mr Kakavas's claim that the casino knew he was a pathological gambler and should not have extended a line of credit of \$US1.013 million.

Mr Kakavas was on his honeymoon at the five-star resort that boasts a "marine habitat

second only to Mother Nature" when he went on his gambling spree.

In December last year after a similar claim, with the judge ordering him to pay the venue a further \$1 million.

The Melbourne-born property developer has lodged an appeal against the findings of Justice David Harper, claiming the judge made 36 errors in his judgment in favour of the Southbank casino.

Justice Davies said Mr Kakavas called evidence from psychologists to back his claim was a pathological gambler, a recognised mental disorder.

The judge said she accepted that it was reasonable to infer that on the day he made the losses Mr Kakavas was unable to walk away from the gaming tables and his ability to control his behaviour was seriously

impaired.

But Justice Davies added there was nothing "to put the casino on notice that Mr Kakavas may have suffered from a serious disability affecting his judgment and control over his gambling activities".

It was significant, she said, that a credit search Atlantis made on Mr Kakavas did not disclose he had excluded himself from any casino.

And no credit or other issues had come to the attention of the Atlantis.

"The provision of credit by the casino was an ordinary incident of gambling activity there," Justice Davies said.

"There was nothing untoward about a patron seeking funds from the casino to gamble and the evidence showed that the credit was given because of his good credit rating



Problem gambler Harry Kakavas lost \$US1 million in five hours of gambling / Herald Sun

with other casinos."

The judge will hear arguments about interest on the

sum on Thursday.

Article from the Herald Sun

Man walks free over curtain rod street killing

A MAN accused of killing another with a wooden curtain rod in a 2008 street brawl yesterday walked free from the Supreme Court, acquitted of all charges.

Mario Nicholas Karageorgis, 27, was accused of murdering Bradley Hawkesworth, 26, and the aggravated assault of his father Colin Hawkesworth.

The jury, which had been deliberating since Friday, found Karageorgis not guilty of murder, the lesser charge of manslaughter and aggravated assault.

The jury had heard the victim died after Karageorgis stabbed him with a curtain rod which went through his eye and penetrated his brain in December 2008.

As the verdict was read out, one woman in the gallery said "thank you" to the jury, while a man yelled "shame on you" at Mr Karageorgis.

The court previously heard Mr Karageorgis had gone to the defence of his wife after seeing her surrounded by a group of men on the street, one of whom was armed with a knife.

In his closing address to the jury, David Stokes, for Mr Karageorgis asked they each put themselves in Mr Karageorgis' shoes.

"This is quick, people don't have time for intellectual reflection, and I suggest this man did in the spur of the moment, what he thought was the



Mario Karageorgis: family angry as he is acquitted over a fight death. (ABC News)

right thing to do," Mr Stokes said.

"What you see is three men and your wife . . . there is shouting. There is yelling. Your wife is screaming. There

is some sort of conflict going on."

He said Mr Karageorgis did not intend seriously harming or killing anyone.

"Would it not be within the realms of nature for some men, not all men . . . that some men would grab the nearest weapon they could go in the defence of their partner?" he asked the jury.

Speaking after the verdict, Mr Stokes said his client was "intensely relieved", but still affected by the incident. "He is still emotionally disturbed and indeed distressed by the death of the other man on that evening," Mr Stokes said.

Jordanna Schriever From: ABC

The history of most fanatic Australian sports fan on screen

Corfa, known by all by his nick name, "Joffa" is the "lunatic" fan of the Collingwood team, who with his antics has managed many times to attract media attention and as can be expected, the start of film by expatriate director, Christos Liontas (foto). "Many might consider him a crazy and eccentric sports fan" stated Liontas, but adds that "I saw him as an enthusiastic person who is the life of the party, who has loves for his team". The film focuses on Joffa's adventures and mishaps which are accompanied by much humor. Joffa himself, speaking about his cinematic debut, noted that he was awaiting negative comments by many once again, but maintained he didn't care, since he is doing it for his true love, Collingwood. (source: voice of greece)



Shutterbug's dream rises from adversity

EVAN Kallipolitis' dream job came out of his biggest struggle.

He runs Createv Photography with his wife Juliette from their Beverly Park home, but besides being a passion, photography was a sort of therapy for him when he was fighting cancer.

"[Photography] was a way to express myself," Mr Kallipolitis said.

Now, he and Juliette are able to express their photographic talents in a business that has been running successfully for a decade. They specialise in wedding photography, and the business has just expanded to include video production and personalised albums.

Details: www.createvphotography.com.au

Caption: Sure Shot: Ebn and Juliette Kallipolitis have launched a series of products to complement their photography business.