

Philly woman who punched reporter on live TV pleads guilty

BY REECE T. WILLIAMS

NEW YORK DAILY NEWS Thursday, July 21, 2016, 2:17 PM

Philly Reporter Attacked During Live Shot- FTVLive



The woman who sucker-punched a Telemundo reporter while she was broadcasting live in front of Philadelphia City Hall last month, is going to stay in jail, if only for a few more days.

Wahdeedah Wilson, 37, pleaded guilty to a charge of simple assault on Wednesday, [the Philadelphia Inquirer reported](#). She had been behind bars since the June 8 incident because she could not afford her \$25,000 bail.

The paper reported that Wilson entered municipal court Judge Jacquelyn Frazier-Lyde's courtroom on Wednesday wearing the same green T-shirt she is seen wearing in the video. The recording shows reporter Iris Delgado finishing a live segment, when Wilson comes into the shot, trying to get Delgado's attention. "Excuse me," Wilson says, tapping Delgado's shoulder.

Delgado seems to ignore Wilson, who then slaps her in the back of the head, and punches her in the forehead.

"Ay Dios mio," exclaims the news anchor to whom Delgado was reporting.

"I'm very apologetic," Wilson said in court, according to the Inquirer. "You won't have to worry about me coming back in here for these problems."

Frazier-Lyde sentenced Wilson to 60 days in jail, with credit for time served. That means, Wilson will end up spending 19 more days behind bars.



Wahdeedah Wilson pleaded guilty to a charge of simple assault on Wednesday for punching a reporter in the head on live television. (TELEMUNDO 62)

Originally, Assistant District Attorney Elia Robertson offered Wilson a plea deal of five to 18 months in jail followed by six months of probation for simple assault and reckless endangerment, the Inquirer reported. But, defense lawyer William J. Ciancaglini told the paper that he had counseled Wilson not to take the agreement, believing it was too severe for a single punch.

"It's Philadelphia. People punch each other all the time," he told the Inquirer during a court break preceding the judge's ruling. "I want her sentenced as everyone else would be for throwing one punch — and it's not five months in jail. You can't make a crime different because it happened on television."

Robertson eventually reduced the request to a three-month jail sentence, still followed by six months of probation, according to the Inquirer.

Delgado was in court, but declined the paper's request for comment.

Ciancaglini told the Inquirer that "Wahdeedah is a nice lady."

"I believe she was just maybe having a bad day and made a foolish decision," he added.

© 2016 New York Daily News

