



# URGENT: Institutional Failure and Lack of Investigation into Dr. Joe Vella Baldacchino – Noel Azzopardi Case

1 message

Nicholas Grech <nicho.grech@gmail.com>

Sat, 27 Jun 2026 at 09:47

To: kaylie.bonett@gov.mt

Dear Prosecutor Kaylie Bonett,

I am writing to formally demand immediate attention regarding a critical aspect of the Noel Azzopardi case that has been completely ignored by the prosecution and investigators: Why has no formal criminal investigation been launched into the actions of Psychiatrist Joe Vella Baldacchino?

As detailed heavily in my previous correspondence here forwarded – which I urge you to review immediately for full context and documented facts – this is not a straightforward criminal matter. It is a case of systemic exploitation where a highly vulnerable, cognitively impaired individual was used as a financial cash cow and a legal scapegoat to protect high-ranking professionals.

To reiterate the core failures that your office must answer for:

- Weapons for Cash: Dr. Vella Baldacchino altered Azzopardi's possibly critical stabilizing medication while charging him private fees (€80 per document) to clear the firearms paperwork for a man with the mental capacity of a child.
- The Collusive Medical Cover-Up: The subsequent assessment by Psychiatrist Joe Cassar portraying Azzopardi as entirely "sane" directly contradicts the immediate post-arrest decision by authorities to rush him back onto a heavy medication regime in custody. This creates a glaring conflict of interest to shield Dr. Vella Baldacchino and the wider psychiatric profession from liability.
- The Defense Failure: Azzopardi's own legal defense team has remained silently complicit, failing to challenge these contradictions to multiply court sittings for profit.

By proceeding with the prosecution of Noel Azzopardi while completely ignoring the criminal negligence and financial exploitation committed by the medical gatekeepers who armed him, your office is enabling a massive institutional cover-up.

I expect an investigation and prosecution of the real culprit, namely Dr. Joe Vella Baldacchino, as well as accountability for the systemic failures that directly led to this public safety catastrophe and the destruction of two families.

Respectfully,

Nicholas Grech

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Nicholas Grech** <nicho.grech@gmail.com>

Date: Sat, 20 Jun 2026, 16:09

Subject: Injustice and Institutional Exploitation: Formal Briefing on the Noel Azzopardi Case

To: <archbishop@maltadiocese.org>, <bishopateuma@gmail.com>, <j.galea.curmi@maltadiocese.org>, <gustizzjaupaci@maltadiocese.org>, <joe.borg@um.edu.mt>

Archbishop, Charles J. Scicluna,

CC:

Auxiliary Bishop, Joseph Galea Curmi,

Bishop of Gozo, Anton Teuma,

Justice and Peace Commission,

Rev. Joe Borg,

In one of your public addresses, Your Excellency explicitly stated: "In the face of evil deeds and injustice, one cannot remain neutral."

As has long been the custom regarding psychiatry and figures of power in Malta, today another profound injustice is unfolding – one that severely tests the validity of that very principle and raises serious questions about the Church's ongoing silence. It is a case where a highly vulnerable, cognitively impaired individual is being used as a legal scapegoat to shield high-ranking medical and legal professionals from institutional liability, while being systematically bled of his financial resources in the process.

Below is a detailed briefing on the case of Noel Azzopardi – a man left with the mental capacity of a child following a childhood brain tumor – who is currently bearing 100% of the blame for a catastrophic systemic collapse that allowed him access to lethal weapons.

We urge the Church, as the moral compass it claims to be in our society, to break its neutrality on this matter and demand immediate accountability for the exploitation of this vulnerable individual.

### 1. The Medical Gatekeeper: Weapons for Cash

Long before the tragic murder of Eric Borg, official reports established that Azzopardi possessed severe cognitive deficits — deficits significant enough that his firearms license had been rightfully suspended. Yet, Psychiatrist Joe Vella Baldacchino (JVB) reduced what was likely his critical stabilizing medication and charged Azzopardi private fees (€80 per document) to draft the specific paperwork required to reinstate his weapon access. A heavily compromised man was handed a lethal weapon, effectively traded for private medical fees.

### 2. The State's Contradiction: Conveniently Sane

Following the tragedy, an assessment by Psychiatrist Joe Cassar portrayed Azzopardi as entirely sane at the time of the offense. Yet, immediately upon his arrest, authorities rushed to restart his heavy medication regime in custody. This glaring contradiction raises serious suspicions that medical professionals aligned their conclusions to shield Dr. Vella Baldacchino from liability for clearing the firearms paperwork, protecting the wider psychiatric profession from institutional exposure.

### 3. The Legal Defense: Deliberate Silence for Profit?

The exploitation extended directly into the courtroom. Serious questions must be raised regarding the conduct of Azzopardi's own legal defense team. His lawyers have notably failed to aggressively challenge these medical contradictions or force these systemic failures into the judicial record — failures that should necessitate an immediate appeal. Did an underlying conflict of interest cause his lawyers to remain silent to avoid incriminating Dr. Vella Baldacchino, thereby defrauding their own cognitively impaired client simply to multiply court sittings and maximize legal fees?

### 4. The Abner Aquilina Double Standard

The legal-medical handling of Azzopardi stands in stark contrast to other high-profile cases. In the case of Abner Aquilina, the accused was deemed insane at the time of the offense — despite showing such a lack of apparent medical insanity that, owing to his aggressive behavior, nurses at Mount Carmel Hospital refused to work in his presence, forcing his transfer back to prison. Conversely, Azzopardi — a man with a documented, organic childhood brain injury — is deemed perfectly sane just to ensure he faces the full force of a trial, while remaining heavily medicated behind bars. The framework appears meticulously designed to absorb 100% of the blame onto an exploited individual, ensuring the professionals who enabled him walk away untouched.

### – A Call to Action Against Hypocrisy and Double Standards

When a disabled man is exploited by his psychiatrist for paperwork fees, when another psychiatrist depicts him as sane to shield a colleague and safeguard their profession, and when he is further bled dry by a legal team that refuses to expose the truth, the entire justice system has collapsed.

If the Church truly believes that "one cannot remain neutral" in the face of evil deeds and injustice, it cannot stand by silently while the state, the medical establishment, and the legal profession collude to exploit a mentally disabled man. I look forward to seeing your words put into practice through a clear, public stance against this institutional abuse.

Respectfully,  
Nicholas Grech

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Nicholas Grech** <[nicho.grech@gmail.com](mailto:nicho.grech@gmail.com)>

Date: Wed, 17 Jun 2026, 16:03

Subject: The Noel Azzopardi Case: Media Silence or a Multi-Professional Racket Exploiting a Cognitively Impaired Individual?

To: <[editor@timesofmalta.com](mailto:editor@timesofmalta.com)>, <[info@timesofmalta.com](mailto:info@timesofmalta.com)>, <[news@pbs.com.mt](mailto:news@pbs.com.mt)>, <[dailynews@mediatoday.com](mailto:dailynews@mediatoday.com)>, <[info@theshiftnews.com](mailto:info@theshiftnews.com)>, <[news@newsbook.com.mt](mailto:news@newsbook.com.mt)>, <[info@maltadaily.mt](mailto:info@maltadaily.mt)>

Times Of Malta,  
TVMnews.mt,  
MaltaToday,  
The Shift News,  
Newsbook,  
MaltaDaily.mt,

As the tragic murder of Eric Borg remains framed in the public eye as a straightforward criminal case, a disturbing trail of documented facts points to a much darker reality. Evidence suggests that Noel Azzopardi — a highly vulnerable individual with a long-standing cognitive impairment — has been used as a financial cash cow and a legal scapegoat to shield high-ranking professionals.

The Maltese public must ask: Is our system protecting public safety, or is it running a lucrative exploitation industry where psychiatrists and lawyers bleed a mentally disabled man for cash while covering up institutional failures?

The gravity of this scandal spans a network of medical and legal professionals who have allegedly prioritized billable hours and professional courtesy over ethics and the law:

### 1. The Medical Gatekeeper: Weapons for Cash

Long before the tragedy, official reports established that Azzopardi possessed the mental capacity of a child, a condition resulting from the removal of a brain tumor at age 13. His firearms license had been rightfully suspended. Yet, Psychiatrist Joe Vella Baldacchino (JVB) reduced his critical stabilizing medication and charged Azzopardi private fees (€80 per document) to draft the paperwork required to reinstate his weapon access. A severely compromised man was handed a lethal weapon, seemingly traded for private medical fees.

### 2. The State's Contradiction: Conveniently Sane

Following the murder, an assessment by Psychiatrist Joe Cassar portrayed Azzopardi as entirely sane at the time of the offense. Yet, immediately upon his arrest, authorities rushed to restart his heavy medication regime in custody. If he was fully sane, why was immediate psychiatric intervention required post-arrest? This creates a glaring appearance of a conflict of interest, raising serious suspicions that medical professionals are aligning conclusions to shield colleagues from catastrophic professional liability—protecting Dr. Vella Baldacchino for clearing the firearms paperwork, and shielding the wider psychiatric profession from institutional exposure.

### 3. The Legal Defense: Deliberate Silence for Profit?

The alleged exploitation did not stop at the medical profession; it extended directly into the courtroom. Serious questions must be raised regarding the conduct of Azzopardi's own legal defense. His lawyers have notably failed to aggressively challenge these glaring medical contradictions or force these systemic failures into the judicial record—failures that should necessitate an immediate appeal. Is this silence a result of incompetence, or a calculated move to multiply court sittings to maximize legal fees from a vulnerable client? Furthermore, did an underlying conflict of interest cause his lawyers to remain silent to avoid incriminating Dr. Vella Baldacchino, thereby defrauding their own cognitively impaired client to protect the professional establishment?

### 4. The Abner Aquilina Double Standard

The legal-medical handling of Azzopardi stands in stark contrast to other high-profile cases. In the case of Abner Aquilina, the accused was deemed insane at the time of the offense. Conversely, Azzopardi — a man with a documented, organic childhood brain injury — is deemed perfectly sane just to ensure he faces the full force of a trial, while remaining heavily medicated behind bars. The framework appears designed to absorb 100% of the blame onto an exploited individual, ensuring the professionals who enabled him walk away untouched.

Critical Questions the Maltese Media Must Ask:

- Why has no formal criminal investigation been launched into Dr. Joe Vella Baldacchino for the medically negligent clearance of firearms paperwork for a cognitively impaired individual?
- Why are the regulatory bodies for both psychiatrists and lawyers silent on the blatant financial exploitation of a vulnerable citizen?
- Did Noel Azzopardi's legal team fail to raise these systemic contradictions to intentionally multiply court sittings for financial gain, or to shield establishment figures from criminal exposure?

When a disabled man is exploited by his psychiatrist for paperwork fees, and then bled dry by a legal team that refuses to expose the truth, the entire justice system has collapsed. The media can no longer ignore the gatekeepers who paved the way for this tragedy.

Nicholas Grech

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Nicholas Grech** <[nicho.grech@gmail.com](mailto:nicho.grech@gmail.com)>

Date: Thu, 11 Jun 2026, 16:29

Subject: Failure to Investigate Medical Malpractice and Systemic Oversight in the Case of Noel Azzopardi

To: <[wayne.camilleri@gov.mt](mailto:wayne.camilleri@gov.mt)>, <[keith.arnaud@gov.mt](mailto:keith.arnaud@gov.mt)>, <[pulizija@gov.mt](mailto:pulizija@gov.mt)>, <[commissioner.police@gov.mt](mailto:commissioner.police@gov.mt)>, <[glenn.bedingfield@gov.mt](mailto:glenn.bedingfield@gov.mt)>, <[bedingfieldg@gmail.com](mailto:bedingfieldg@gmail.com)>

Police Inspector, Wayne Camilleri,  
Police Assistant Commissioner, Keith Arnaud,  
Cc:  
Police,  
Police Commissioner, Angelo Gafa,  
Minister for Home Affairs and Security, Glenn Bedingfield,

I am writing to formally request a review of the actions — and the subsequent lack of investigation — concerning the medical and regulatory handling of Noel Azzopardi prior to the tragic incident involving the murder of Eric Borg.

Specifically, this inquiry should investigate the professional misconduct of Psychiatrist Joe Vella Baldacchino (JVB) and the failure of authorities to act upon pre-existing warnings regarding the individual's mental state and firearm access.

The timeline and documented facts of the case raise critical questions that demand accountability:

1. Prior Notification and Weapon Forfeiture: Long before the incident occurred, official reports and documentation [were submitted to the authorities](#) regarding Noel Azzopardi's cognitive impairment, establishing that [he possessed an intellectual disability](#) with the mental

capacity of a child — a condition possibly resulting or aggravated further [following the removal of a brain tumor](#) at the age of 13. Consequently, directives had been issued to suspend and revoke his firearms license due to these vulnerabilities.

2. Medical Misconduct and Financial Exploitation: Despite these clear indicators and prior safety alarms, Psychiatrist Joe Vella Baldacchino actively altered Azzopardi's psychiatric treatment by removing or reducing possibly critical medication essential to stabilizing his condition. Furthermore, Dr. Vella Baldacchino financially exploited Azzopardi by charging him fees ("he [JVB] charged me €80 for each paper") to draft and issue the specific paperwork required to reinstate his firearms license. This raises severe questions about professional responsibility: for financial gain, systemic warnings were ignored, directly resulting in a compromised individual gaining access to lethal weapons.

3. Contradictory Legal and Medical Determinations: Following the tragic murder, the investigation, prosecution, and particularly the assessment by Psychiatrist Joe Cassar portrayed Azzopardi as entirely sane at the time of the offense. This determination appears to conflict directly with his since long cognitive impairments and the immediate post-arrest decision by authorities to restart his medication while in custody. This creates a strong appearance of a conflict of interest, where medical professionals may be aligning conclusions to shield a colleague and protect the profession from liability and criticism.

4. Current Status and Institutional Shielding: Contradictory, Azzopardi is currently deemed insane under his restarted medication regime, yet faces the [prospect of being labeled "sane" again](#) solely for the purposes of facing trial and long-term imprisonment and being held innocently behind bars taking all the blame. The contradiction in this conclusion is striking (particularly when contrasted with the [case of Abner Aquilina](#), who was deemed insane at the time of his offence). This shifting legal and medical designation suggests a framework designed to absorb all blame onto a vulnerable, exploited individual, effectively shielding the medical professionals who cleared his access to firearms and subsequently covered up the systemic failures.

Given these parameters, I urge your office to provide clarification on the following matters:

- Why was no formal criminal investigation launched into the actions of Dr. Joe Vella Baldacchino regarding the medically negligent clearance of firearms paperwork for a cognitively impaired individual?
- How did the police department reconcile the decision to return or permit firearms access to an individual whose license had previously been flagged for suspension due to mental incapacity?
- Will an independent internal affairs review be initiated to examine whether crucial medical history and professional exploitation were overlooked to mitigate institutional liability?

The integrity of both judicial and medical oversight bodies depends on transparency in cases where vulnerable individuals are exploited and innocently ending bearing the full consequences, leading to catastrophic public safety failures. I look forward to your prompt confirmation of receipt and an update on whether this matter will be referred to the appropriate oversight division and those involved prosecuted.

Sincerely,  
Nicholas Grech  
ID. No. 435076M



**QuoteByTheHypocriteArchbishop.jpg**

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