

Media Statement



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TO: ALL MEDIA

DATE: 06 JULY 2016

RE: LIFE PLUS 15 YEARS IMPRISONMENT FOR ROBBERY & MURDER

Simphiwe Michael Sosibo (38) and Mvuseni David Mchunu (47) were sentenced to life and 15 years imprisonment in the Durban High Court last week after being convicted of housebreaking, robbery and murder.

The incident took place in April 2013 in the Waterfall area in Hillcrest where the accused armed with a firearm broke into the home of the complainants who were asleep.

They shot the owner of the house, Jacques Oosthuizen in the presence of his wife and two children and stole various items including cellphones, shoes, bar fridge, bedside lamps, money, DVD player, hand bags, toys and etc. These items were loaded into the complainant's vehicle. The accused drove off in this vehicle which subsequently stalled a few kilometres away. They abandoned it and fled.

The deceased later died as a result of a gunshot wound to the abdomen.

In aggravation of sentence, Senior State Advocate, Khatija Essack told the court that both accused had violated their parole conditions when they committed the offences. They also had a string of previous convictions pertaining to violent crimes. Advocate Essack handed in a victim impact statement facilitated by Court Preparation Officer Louann Shuttleworth in which the daughter and wife of the deceased mention how the incident had affected their lives. They said that they relocated several times since the robbery as they no longer felt safe anywhere.

The National Prosecuting Authority deems this sentence fitting given the violent nature of the crime committed. We trust that it will have a deterrent effect on like-minded individuals.

Kind Regards,

Natasha Kara

Regional Spokesperson: DPP KZN

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