Media Statement



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TO: ALL MEDIA

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RE: 30 YEARS FOR KILLER COP

Detective Warrant Officer Isaac Bhayo Dlamini (45) was sentenced to 30 years imprisonment in the Empangeni Regional Court last week for the two murders he committed in the Portdurnford area of Esikhawini in September 2013.

The deceased and complainants in this matter were asleep while the accused drove into the yard and started firing shots. When the neighbours looked out their windows, the accused pointed a firearm at them, causing them to close their curtains and hide away.

A shootout ensued between the accused and one of the deceased, a fellow police official. The accused then broke down the door of the house and shot dead a 21 year-old woman who lived in the house together with her twin sister and mother. The deceased woman's mother and twin sister were not killed and went on to testify on behalf of the state.

During the trial the accused claimed that he was mentally disturbed and was sent for mental observation. While the evaluations proved that he was mentally sound, the accused persisted and Regional Court Prosecutor, Simphiwe Hlela, led the evidence of psychiatrists to rebut this claim.

In aggravation of sentence Hlela told the court that the accused, as a police official, had a duty to protect and not kill. Also, the accused had shown no remorse throughout the trial and did not provide an explanation for the murders. Court Preparation Officer Seneliswa Sibanda provided support to the family of the deceased.

The accused was sentenced to 15 years imprisonment for each of the murders. The presiding officer ordered that the sentences run consecutively.

Director of Public Prosecutions in KZN, Advocate Moipone Noko welcomes the sentence; 'The sentence is definitely fitting, especially since they will run consecutively. It is disappointing that a law enforcement official has committed these offences. The efforts of the Prosecutor, Simphiwe Hlela, are commended.'

Kind Regards,

Natasha Kara

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