

Media Statement



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TO: ALL MEDIA

DATE: 24 JUNE 2019

**RE: JUDGE MOKGOATHLENG DECIDES FATE OF 2 MEN WHO MURDERED
CHICO GALISTO**

Winnie Mandela squatter camp murderers were sentenced to life imprisonment by Judge Ratha Mokgoathleng at the Gauteng Local Division High Court in Johannesburg on Friday, 21 June 2019.

Obed Sithole (27) and Carlos Chivavele (29) appeared in court after they were convicted of murder, attempted murder, robbery and unlawful possession of ammunition. The duo was apprehended by the police and has since been in custody from 15 December 2017. They were sentenced to life imprisonment for murder, which will run concurrent with 15 years for armed robbery, 15 years for unlawful possession for firearm, 5 years for attempted murder and 3 years for unlawful possession of ammunition.

On the afore mentioned date in Tembisa, Galisto and his co-worker were sitting in their employer's vehicle when the accused arrived in two motor vehicles and blocked them from moving. They pointed a firearm and shot at them and demanded money. An amount of R39 950, cell phones and the motor vehicle were robbed from the victims.

During the closing arguments, the defence proposed for a lesser sentence and asked the court to balance the interest of both the accused and the society. The defence also indicated that all the circumstances which can be regarded as mitigating factors are times spent in custody and the ages of the accused should be considered.

However, the state submitted that there was nothing which can be regarded as substantial and compelling from the evidence of both accused. State further submitted that a term of life imprisonment was appropriate sentence in the circumstances as the crime was pre-planned and of common purpose existed between the accused.

The judge condemned the wrongful acts of the accused and said that they performed them because of greed.

The NPA is satisfied with the imposed sentence.

Kind Regards,

Hurbetin Phindi Louw-Mjonondwane

Regional Spokesperson: DPP South Gauteng

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