

Media Statement



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TO: ALL MEDIA

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RE: KWAMASHU MAN GETS LIFE PLUS 10 YEARS

Lucky Phuzubheke Sikhakhane (35) was given a life sentence for murder and ten years imprisonment for attempted murder in the Durban High Court yesterday.

This sentence relates to an incident which happened in KwaMashu last year. The deceased, Sithembiso Gcinakonke Biyela and his girlfriend, Scelokuhle Buyisile Hlongwa were at the deceased's home on the evening of 30 March 2014. The accused and two accomplices went to the house pretending to be police officials and demanded that the deceased let them in. When the occupants of the house refused, the accused and one of his accomplices started shooting through an open window while the other accomplice pushed down the door. Once inside, they shot at both the deceased and his partner. Biyela died on arrival at the hospital and Hlongwa sustained gunshot wounds to her arm.

In aggravation of sentence, state advocate Khatija Essack argued that the actions of the accused and his accomplices were premeditated. They went to the house with a particular purpose and that was to kill since no items were stolen during the attack. She also told the court that the accused had deliberately shot the deceased as the post mortem report showed that the deceased had sustained 36 gunshot wounds.

The NPA deems this sentence fitting given the violent nature of the crime committed. We trust that it will serve as a deterrent to like-minded individuals.

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