

Media Statement



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TO: ALL MEDIA

DATE: 1 November 2017

RE: KILLERS OF MELMOTH FAMILY GET HEFTY SENTENCES

Siphehile Nduli (21), Mxolisi Biyela (21), Sphamandla Khayile (20) and Khanyisani Nduli (19) were sentenced to various terms of imprisonment in the Durban High Court yesterday for the offences of murder, attempted murder, housebreaking and robbery with aggravating circumstances they committed in August 2016.

The complainant, deceased and accused all resided in the Kwazululiyaduma area in Melmoth and were known to each other. On the night of the incident, the accused armed themselves with knives and firearms and went to the house where the deceased and complainant were asleep. They broke into the house and shot at the occupants. They then stole a sum of R1000 and fled the scene.

The deceased, among them an eight-month pregnant woman, died at the scene while the complainant was rushed to hospital.

In aggravation of sentence Senior State Advocate, Vusi Xaba told the court that the acts of violence committed by the accused were extremely horrific and the fact that they showed no remorse during the trial was further disturbing.

Accused 1 and 2 were sentenced to 3 terms of life imprisonment for the murders, 15 years for robbery, 15 years for attempted murder and 5 years for housebreaking. Accused 3 was sentenced to 25 years imprisonment for each of the murders, 15 years for robbery, 15 years for attempted murder and 5 years for housebreaking. Accused 4 was sentenced to 20 years imprisonment for each murder, 15 years for robbery, 15 years for attempted murder and 5 years for housebreaking.

The Director of Public Prosecutions in KZN, Advocate Moipone Noko welcomed the conviction and sentence and had this to say, "this sentence is indicative of the serious

light in which the Criminal Justice System views crimes of this nature, despite the young age of the accused persons.”

Kind Regards,

Natasha Kara

Regional Spokesperson: DPP KZN

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