

Media Statement



Tel: +27 12 845 6000

Email:
media@npa.gov.za

Victoria & Griffiths
Mxenge Building
123 Westlake Avenue
Weavind Park
Silverton
Pretoria

www.npa.gov.za

TO: ALL MEDIA

DATE: 11 DECEMBER 2019

RE: LIFE PLUS 15 YEARS FOR KILLER OF DUT STUDENT

This week, the Pietermaritzburg High Court sentenced Msizi Mbotho to a term of life and 15 years imprisonment after he pleaded guilty to the murder and robbery of a first-year student at the Berea campus of the Durban University of Technology (DUT) in September.

In his plea, the accused explained that on the day of the incident he went to the campus to steal any portable items, as he did not have a job or any money. He gained access by pretending to be a student. Once inside he found a hammer on a construction site and decided that he would use that to carry out his plans. He found Sandile Glen Johannes Ndlovu, alone in a lecture theatre. He approached him from behind and struck him twice on his head. The accused then stole his cellphone, laptop and internet router and fled the scene.

Ndlovu succumbed to his injuries (in hospital) two weeks later. The post-mortem examination revealed that he died because of 'multi-organ pathology following blunt force head injury.'

In aggravation of sentence, State Advocate, Bonginkosi (Bonga) Mbokazi handed in a victim impact statement compiled by the deceased's father and facilitated by Court Preparation Officer, Louann Shuttleworth. In his statement, the father described him as a God-fearing and mature person who was focused and serious about his future. He was a top achiever at school and his family expected him to finish his studies with good marks. The deceased's father mentioned that their family and their community had high expectations for him.

The accused was sentenced to life imprisonment for murder and 15 years for robbery with aggravating circumstances.

The Director of Public Prosecutions in Kwa-Zulu Natal, Adv. Elaine Zungu said, "We are very pleased with the conviction and sentence of the accused. The recent spate of attacks on students on university campuses is a concern and there is an outcry from society for stringent security on site. These students are the future leaders of our country and they need to be protected. The state views crimes of this nature in a serious light and will prosecute them accordingly."

Natasha Kara

Regional Spokesperson: DPP KZN

Enquiries: nramkisson@npa.gov.za

0716700229