

Media Statement



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TO: ALL MEDIA

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RE: LIFE SENTENCE FOR KILLERS OF FOREIGN NATIONAL

Zwelethu Mafuna (19) and Loyiso Nkamba (22) were each sentenced to a term of life imprisonment in the Kokstad Regional Court last week after being convicted of murder.

The incident occurred in November 2015 in the Shayamoya area in Kokstad where the deceased, an Ethiopian national was at his spaza shop serving customers. The two accused pretended to be customers wanting to buy airtime when they pulled out a firearm and shot the deceased, who died at the scene.

Regional Court Prosecutor, Smangele Mdunjana-Mpofana led the evidence of two eyewitnesses who positively identified the accused as the ones who shot the accused. Mdunjana-Mpofana told the court that the deceased was a responsible member of the community who worked hard to make a living. She pleaded with the court to impose a sentence that was appropriate to the senseless killing of the deceased.

The accused were thus sentenced to a term of life imprisonment each.

Commenting about the sentence, the Director of Public Prosecutions in KZN, Advocate Moipone Noko said, "The sentence is indeed appropriate in this seemingly afro-phobic (xenophobic) attack. Offenders of these crimes must know that such actions will not be tolerated. Congratulations to prosecutor Mdunjana-Mpofana on a job well done!"

Kind Regards,

Natasha Kara

Regional Spokesperson: DPP KZN

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