

Media Statement



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TO: ALL MEDIA

DATE: 07 JUNE 2017

RE: MAN SENTENCED TO LIFE AND 15 YEARS FOR MURDER & ROBBERY

Siyabonga Mkhize (27) was sentenced to life and 15 years imprisonment in the Scottburgh Regional Court last week for murder and robbery in the Umzinto area.

The 64 year-old deceased owned a tuckshop on her premises and the accused and two other suspects went there under the pretence of wanting to drink water. While the deceased's daughter looked for water, they shot and killed the old woman and stole items such as airtime, cash and cigarettes from the tuckshop. They also took the deceased's cellphone. They then entered the house where they threatened two of the occupants with a firearm and stole their cellphones.

In aggravation of sentence, Regional Court Prosecutor, Active Njakazi handed in a victim impact statement facilitated by Court Preparation Officer, Ntuthuko Ngobese. Njakazi further told the court that the offences committed by the accused were serious and prevalent. He said that the accused could have easily threatened the women with the firearm and he did not have to kill the deceased.

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

Welcoming the sentence, the Director of Public Prosecutions, Advocate Moipone Noko said, "I trust this sentence will have a deterrent effect on like-minded offenders."

Kind Regards,

Natasha Kara

Regional Spokesperson: DPP KZN

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