

Media Statement



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TO: ALL MEDIA

DATE: 16 AUGUST 2018

RE: PMB KILLER SENTENCED TO 3 X LIFE PLUS 55 YEARS

Kershwin Goldstone (22) was sentenced to 3 terms of life imprisonment and an additional 55 years in the Pietermaritzburg High Court yesterday after pleading guilty to charges of murder, robbery with aggravating circumstances and housebreaking.

In his plea, the accused outlined how he committed the offences against the elderly residents of two retirement homes in Pietermaritzburg in July this year. He mentioned that he was addicted to drugs and needed money to feed his habit. He entered the properties by jumping over the fence and used the drainpipes and satellite dishes as leverage to climb before breaking into the various units. The accused murdered three people, aged 92, 89 and 88 years respectively in three separate incidents. Items that he stole included a TV set, cellphone, toaster, laptop and money. These were sold for money to buy drugs.

In aggravation of sentence, Senior State Advocate Mbongeni Mthembu handed in victim impact statements facilitated by Court Preparation Officers, Louann Shuttleworth and Mandisa Sikakane as well as Court Preparation Manager Roelien Wiesner, and compiled by relatives and friends of the deceased. One of the authors, a resident at one of the retirement homes, said that the remaining residents were becoming ill, as they now feared for their lives.

The accused was sentenced to 3 terms of life imprisonment for the murders, 45 years imprisonment for robbery and 10 years imprisonment for housebreaking.

The Director of Public Prosecutions in KwaZulu Natal, Advocate Moipone Noko said, "I welcome the sentence and conviction in this matter as it fits the crime. It is unfortunate that innocent lives of defenceless elderly people were lost through the cowardice of the accused."

Kind Regards,

Natasha Kara
Regional Spokesperson: DPP KZN
0716700229