

Media Statement



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TO: ALL MEDIA

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RE: TWO MEN SENTENCED TO LIFE IMPRISONMENT FOR BRUTAL MURDER

On Friday, the Western Cape High Court sentenced Brent Henry and Juane Jacobs to life imprisonment after convicting them on a charge of murder of Carl Schoombie.

Henry was convicted on charges of murder, assault with intent to do grievous bodily harm, assault, and crimen injuria. He was sentenced to life imprisonment for murder, six months for assault of John Cannon, sixty days for assault on Sarah Cannon and sixty days on assault and crimen injuria on Victoria Parker.

Jacobs was sentenced to life imprisonment for the murder and was sentenced to a further three years in respect of the two assaults with intent to do grievous bodily harm. The court ordered that all sentences in respect of both accused are to be served concurrently meaning both accused will serve life imprisonment.

What started as a night out for young people at a popular night club, Tiger Tiger, in Claremont ended up in tragedy after Carl Schoombie was mistaken by Henry and Jacobs to have been involved in a scuffle they had in the night club earlier that evening. When Schoombie, John and Sarah Cannon and Victoria Parker were leaving the club in an Uber taxi, they were followed by the two men who accused Schoombie of being involved in the scuffle. The two accused forced the taxi to a stop and the deceased and the witnesses explained to them they were making a mistake. The Uber taxi managed to leave. The accused followed the taxi again forcing it to stop again. The second time the deceased and his friend, John got out of the taxi to explain to the accused that they were making a mistake. They never finished their utterances before they were attacked by the 40 year old Henry and Muay Thai boxer, Jacobs.

Schoombie was lying unconscious while the two continued kicking, punching, elbowing and kicking him on his head. During the trial, they both denied this brutal attack, but medical evidence sourced by Advocate Christopher Burke told a different story. It showed that the type of injuries suffered by the deceased can only be suffered when the brain moves at a very high velocity and there's a shearing of nerves between the static and movable parts of the deep brain. It further revealed that someone's head lying on the ground must have been struck by a swinging object such as a bat or a leg and would need to move from side to side horizontally with enough velocity to cause the shearing effect. The doctor who testified during trial said that these types of injuries were usually seen in motor vehicle accidents and falls from considerable heights.

Advocate Burke argued that the accused did not show any remorse or take responsibility for their actions. They were sorry for the situation they found themselves in.

"There has never been a more clear indication of direct intention to kill in an assault case in South Africa than in this one. The particular skill set owned by Jacobs made him a killing machine able to use fists, elbows, knees and shins like others use guns and knives to kill. He had direct intention to murder Carl and Henry knowing this, joined him also intending to murder Carl. The medical evidence of deep brain injuries and the observations by the eye-witnesses of the absolute brutality of the assault and their certainty that it was meant to kill (coupled with the accused not allowing the court the opportunity to determine their exact mindsets) are consistent with a finding of murder with *dolus directus* at the very least", Advocate Burke said.

The NPA welcomes the sentence

Kind Regards,

Eric Ntabazalila

Regional Spokesperson: DPP Western Cape

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