

# Media Statement



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**TO: ALL MEDIA**

**DATE: 01 OCTOBER 2019**

**RE: WOMAN SENTENCED TO INDEFINITE SENTENCE AFTER COURTS DECLARED HER A DANGEROUS CRIMINAL**

Last week, the Western Cape High Court sentenced Levona Jacobs to an indefinite sentence after declaring her a dangerous criminal who is a danger to society. The court ordered that she return to court on 19 September in 2044 to be assessed for consideration to be released. If her behaviour has not changed, she will remain in prison indefinitely.

Jacobs was convicted in May 2019 on ten counts that include two counts of theft, assault common, incitement to commit murder, two counts of fraud, kidnapping, defeating the ends of justice and two counts of murder.

She was fined R3 000 for theft or six months direct imprisonment suspended for three years on condition that she is not convicted of theft during the period of suspension. She received another two years direct imprisonment for incitement to commit murder. Five years direct imprisonment for kidnapping was added on her sentence. She received another suspended sentence of three months direct imprisonment for the two counts of fraud suspended for three years on condition that she is not convicted of fraud during the period of suspension. Twelve months direct imprisonment for defeating the ends of justice was added. The court then sentenced her to an indefinite sentence for the two murders.

The court ordered that sentences imposed on charges 1 – 9 run concurrently with the sentence imposed on the second charge of murder. Jacob started committing crime against her family members after the death of her brother, Donovan Martin Jacobs. The deceased and his wife, Virna Ann Jacobs, their daughter, Rowena Christolene Jacobs,

and their two grandchildren, Dervinicia and Leveno Jacobs, stayed at 14 Sering Street Delft- South.

Jacobs came up with a plan to kick out all family members from the Delft South house. She took over the household, identity documents of all family members, as well as the SASSA cards of the children. She then murdered Virna Ann Jacobs and Rowena Christolene Jacobs and buried them in shallow graves in the backyard.

She told other family members that Virna Ann Jacobs went to Garries, Namakwaland, and Rowena Christolene Jacobs moved to Atlantis for employment. The other family members became concerned and opened a missing person's case.

Delft community members approached the police and gained permission to enter the premises to search the backyard. They discovered deceased in advance stages of decomposition. Medical evidence showed they were bound by their feet and their airways obstructed by a plastic bag and piece of cloth.

Advocate Teunissen who called 25 witnesses during the trial said after sentencing: "In view of the call for harsher sentences for those who commit acts of violence against women and children the state is satisfied and welcomes the life sentences imposed. The message is clear that our courts will not tolerate this callous and despicable behaviour, which deprived young children of the loving care of both their grandmother and mother and now are separated and growing up in separate households with their paternal families. The accused is declared a dangerous criminal. She will not be released before 2044 and that will be only after consideration by this court of a report by the parole board on whether her status is changed due to rehabilitation and remorse shown."

The court declared her unfit to possess a firearm.

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