

## Store clerk's 2 killers get life

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Judge orders moments of silence for victim before sentencing two Detroit men in '07 pizza shop shooting.

By Christina Stolarz/The Detroit News

MOUNT CLEMENS — A Macomb Circuit judge on Thursday twice ordered moments of silence in his courtroom to honor a pizza shop shooting victim before he sentenced the two men responsible for his death to life in prison.

Judge Donald Miller made the gesture on behalf of Mohammed Al-Harbi, a clerk at a pizza shop in Eastpointe who was gunned down during an armed robbery by the Detroit men in September 2007.

"That poor guy probably took about a minute, while you were running him down ... for him to realize that he's dying," Miller said to **Winfred Roger Phillips**, 28, before he sentenced him to life in prison without parole. "It chills the blood. I have a habit of referring to defendants as gentleman. You don't deserve that title."

Miller gave the same tongue-lashing to **Phillips**' co-defendant Isaiah Mayweather, 26, who also was sentenced to life in prison without parole.

A Macomb County jury in August found the duo guilty of multiple charges, including felony murder, after 2 ½ hours of deliberation.

Authorities say **Phillips** entered the Original Buscemi's pizza shop and party store, walked to the back and shot Al-Harbi, the clerk, 11 times while he was sweeping up before the store's closing. They said Mayweather jumped over the checkout counter to steal cash and then shot the store manager, Sinan Hanna, in the head. Hanna survived, but did not attend the sentencing. Jurors were shown about 16 surveillance cameras — that were positioned throughout the party store — that captured the crime from different angles.

"It was a hard case, a difficult case to defend when there are 16 cameras," said Mayweather's defense attorney, Joseph Kosmala.

Mayweather said during his sentencing that he was dissatisfied with his attorney and the court's decision to deny his motion for new representation before trial.

Miller said that he recalled Mayweather withdrawing his request, and assured Mayweather that he was well-represented by Kosmala.

"You've had the benefit of one of the finest defense attorneys in this jurisdiction, if not the state," Miller said. "There was no defense. Everything added up to you, including your own statements."

A relative of Mayweather, who left the courtroom crying, declined to comment.

However, the owner of Buscemi's said life in prison isn't enough punishment for the crime committed.

"You'll never forget this thing," said Mike Karana, who came to the store about 10 minutes after the shooting. "It's not something minor. They deserved more. A very humble guy was a victim."

**Phillips'** defense attorney, Timothy Barkovic said his client plans to appeal the conviction.

Miller also ordered **Phillips** to give any money he receives during his prison term to the family of Al-Harbi.

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