

MEDIA SUMMARY – JUDGMENT DELIVERED IN THE SUPREME COURT OF APPEAL

31 May 2011

STATUS: Immediate

SAID MOHAMMED v THE STATE (605/2010)

Please note that the media summary is intended for the benefit of the media and does not form part of the judgment of the Supreme Court of Appeal

The Supreme Court of Appeal (the SCA) today dismissed an appeal against conviction and sentence in this matter. The appellant, Mr. Mohammed, was convicted in the Regional Court on robbery with aggravating circumstances. He was sentenced to 15 years imprisonment. An appeal to the Western Cape High Court against conviction and sentence was unsuccessful.

The SCA upheld the findings of the Regional Court Magistrate that the complainants' identification was reliable. The complainants were accosted in a flat by five men brandishing firearms. They described the appellant as the ringleader. The flat was ransacked and one complainant was repeatedly beaten. The SCA endorsed the Regional Court's findings that the conditions were conducive to a reliable identification and that the complainants had sufficient opportunity to observe and identify the appellant.

The SCA found that there were no grounds to interfere with the sentence and consequently dismissed the appeal against conviction and sentence.

-- ends --