# Women Found Guilty of Murder and Robbery of Neighbour in Sheffield



Two women have been found guilty of the murder and robbery of their 60-year-old neighbor, Stephen Koszyczarski, in Woodseats, Sheffield. Zoe Rider, 36, and Nicola Lethbridge, 45, launched a brutal attack on Mr. Koszyczarski on August 9 of last year, falsely accusing him of being a pedophile and taunting him throughout the ordeal. The incident was recorded on the women's phones, which were seized by police and used as evidence in court.

The Sheffield Crown Court heard that Mr. Koszyczarski, who had a mild learning difficulty, was assaulted in his own home. Despite his pleas for mercy, he was brutally beaten and filmed by his attackers. He managed to activate an assistance alarm, which recorded him asking for help and his possessions back. Mr. Koszyczarski succumbed to his injuries and passed away in the hospital on August 11.

The jury, taking just under three hours, convicted Rider and Lethbridge of both murder and robbery. Forensic evidence, including traces of Mr. Koszyczarski's blood on the attackers' clothing, and video footage from their phones, was pivotal in securing their conviction. Both women directed blame at each other during the trial, but jurors were not swayed by their attempts to escape responsibility.

Judge Sarah Wright and Prosecutor Andrew O'Byrne detailed Mr. Koszyczarski’s last interactions and the extent of his injuries in court, noting that there was no evidence to support the allegations made against him. Sentencing for Rider and Lethbridge is scheduled for June 5. Detective Chief Inspector Tom Woodward expressed satisfaction with the jury's verdict, highlighting the callous nature of the crime.