



News Release

Tuesday 22 December 2015

No grounds to refer Ryan Craig sentencing to Court of Appeal

A ten year prison sentence handed down to Lisburn man Ryan Craig cannot be referred to the Court of Appeal because there is no legal basis to do so, the PPS confirmed today. (TUESDAY 22ND DECEMBER)

Ryan Craig appeared at Craigavon Crown Court in August where he pleaded guilty to grievous bodily harm with intent in connection with an attack on Lisburn teenager Scott Vineer in 2012.

After he was sentenced last month, the PPS examined the case to establish whether the Director of Public Prosecutions had the power to ask the Court of Appeal to review it on the grounds that it was unduly lenient.

A PPS spokesperson: "The ten year sentence handed down to Ryan Craig has been carefully considered and no legal basis has been found to refer it as an unduly lenient sentence to the Court of Appeal.

"An unduly lenient sentence is one that falls outside the range of sentence that a judge, taking into consideration all relevant factors and having regard to sentencing guidance, could reasonably consider appropriate. In other words the sentence must not just be lenient but must be unduly lenient.

"We understand that this will be disappointing to Mr Vineer and his family. The Director of Public Prosecutions has offered to meet with them to explain the reasons for this decision."

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