

U.S. activists and family say sentence of white cop, killer of Black teenager, lenient



Dallas, August 30 (RHC)-- In Texas, the family of Black teenager Jordan Edwards, killed at the hands of white police officer Roy Oliver, voiced dissatisfaction with the cop's conviction of just 15 years.

The family spoke well of prosecutors and the fact that a verdict had been issued, but considered the sentence too lenient.

Charmaine Edwards, Jordan's stepmother, said of the killer cop that he could "see life again after 15 years, but that's not enough," she said, adding: "Jordan can never see life again." Jordan's father has filed a civil lawsuit.

The officer, who was let go from the police force after the shooting, was sentenced to 15 years on Wednesday night, convicted of the murder of the unarmed 15-year-old Black teenager. The cop killed Jordan Edwards when he fired into a car filled with black kids leaving a house party in suburban Dallas.

The Dallas-based group Mothers Against Police Brutality expressed dissatisfaction with the sentence, saying in a statement that what Roy Oliver received "is not commensurate with his crime."

Oliver was a police officer in the community of Balch Springs when he and his partner responded to reports of underage drinking at a party. Oliver fired into the car carrying Edwards and his friends, later saying he feared for his partner. In the front passenger seat, Edwards was shot dead. Oliver's partner told jurors he didn't believe his life was ever in danger. Investigators said no guns were found in the vehicle.

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