



POLICE ASSOCIATION OF NEW SOUTH WALES

PO Box A1097, Sydney South, NSW 1232

PHONE: (02) 9265 6777 FAX: (02) 9265 6789

EAGLENET 57071

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David Rixon's Family Have the Life Sentence

The Police Association of NSW today welcomed the decision by Supreme Court Judge, Justice Richard Button, to never release the killer of Senior Constable David Rixon VA from prison.

Michael Allan Jacobs has become the first person jailed for life under the State's new mandatory life sentence without parole for the murder of a police officer.

The legislation was passed by the O'Farrell Government in June 2011, following a long campaign by the Police Association.

Tragically, the circumstances surrounding Senior Constable Rixon's fatal shooting on 2 March 2012 highlighted the dangerous and life threatening situations police encounter each time they go out on a shift.

The 40 year old father of six was shot by Jacobs after a routine traffic stop went horribly wrong in Lorraine St, West Tamworth. Senior Constable Rixon had pulled Jacobs over for a routine random breath test.

In July this year his widow, Fiona, together with family, friends and colleagues, sat through a gruelling five-week trial where they heard the Senior Constable's last words and the fatal shots.

Despite being shot through the heart and lung, Senior Constable Rixon returned fire, critically wounding Jacobs, and then partially handcuffed him in a final act of heroism. He later died at the scene as a result of his injuries. He was posthumously awarded the Commissioner's Valour Award (VA) for conspicuous merit and exceptional bravery whilst under fire.

It took the jury just over an hour on July 15 to find Jacobs guilty of murder.

Police Association President, Scott Weber, who was at the court today, said, "Today's sentencing is a reflection for police in regards to protection and the utilisation of the new legislation and it highlights that David Rixon did not give his life in vain.

"This is about ensuring the strongest possible message – Those who murder police will be locked up for life. There will be no parole. Today has been a long time coming.

"The family and friends of Senior Constable David Rixon VA have already been given a life sentence and have had to endure a harrowing 18 months to get to today.

"Nothing will ever bring David back to his family who have lost a husband, son, father and brother. For the police officers who knew him, they have lost a colleague, friend and mate. The life sentence given to Jacobs doesn't take away the pain and senseless waste of the life he so callously took. We all feel the loss."

Media contact: Alison McLaughlin, 0414 918 470

PRESS RELEASE