

Third teen sentenced for slaying

Barbara Ormsby- Times Correspondent

Media Courthouse- A Chester teenager who pleaded guilty to the third-degree murder of a Jack and Jill ice cream truck driver last April was sentenced to five to 10 years in jail after admitting to Jude Robert A. Wright he never wanted to participate in the robbery with three other males. "I thought it was going to be a real quick theft of some candy or ice cream, with all of us running away and not think about it later," Brandon Cobb said in a statement read to the judge yesterday by defense attorney Charles Peruto Jr. "I can tell you that nobody is laughing now."

Cobb, along with Steven Jones, 19, Kareen Strickland, 20 and Fareed Nelson, 16 were involved in the robbery that resulted in the shooting death of Feras Cheikho, 28, who was flagged down by the quartet as he drove his ice cream truck down Ninth Street in Chester. Jones and Strickland were found guilty of second degree murder on Jan. 10 and will serve mandatory life sentences in prison. Nelson was sentenced Wednesday to seven to 22 years in jail for his part in the crime. Both Cobb and Nelson helped convict Jones and Strickland.

Both Chester City Police Detective Michael Palmer and Assistant District Attorney Stephanie Wills told Wright about Cobb's cooperation with law enforcement officers from the beginning of the investigation. Peruto said his client was "horrified" by what happened to Cheikho. In his statement, Cobb said he would always listen to his mother and stay out of trouble. "I know I have broken my mother's heart, who had high hopes for me, as she always tried to teach me to do the right thing," Cobb stated.