



[Asante Campbell]

Apr 23, 2021 17:00 BST

Two jailed for murdering 'devoted' young father in Hendon

Two men have been sentenced at the Old Bailey for the murder of 24-year-old Asante Campbell after he was fatally stabbed in Hendon in February last year.

They were found guilty at the same court on Tuesday, 16 March.

Kofi Abusah, 19 (23.02.01), of Walter Walk, Edgware and Javell Hall, 18 (19.09.02), of Swanage Way, Hayes were each sentenced to 19 years in prison on Friday, 23 April.

The court heard that on the evening of 29 February 2020, Asante Campbell, who was from Edgware, had driven to the Bellevue Estate to meet a friend before they were due to travel together to work as railway track workers. Whilst waiting in the car park, a Toyota Prius, containing the suspects, pulled up next to him.

Four men got out of the Toyota, whilst the driver waited to aide their escape. They surrounded Asante's VW Polo. He was stabbed through an open window.

Asante was able to drive a short distance away from the car park and inform a family member that he had been stabbed. He lost consciousness shortly after 21:00hrs and collided with a parked car on Parson Street. Local residents quickly came to his assistance and called for an ambulance.

Emergency services attended and was taken by the London Ambulance Service to a north London hospital where he died soon on arrival. A post-mortem examination found cause of death to be an incised wound to the chest.

A murder investigation was launched by detectives from the Specialist Crime Command.

Detective Chief Inspector Andy Partridge, from the Specialist Crime

Command, said: "Asante Campbell was a hard-working man, who was devoted to his young family. Just 15 minutes prior to his murder, he had left his fiancée and baby daughter, having volunteered to work a night shift; he never returned home to them. The motive for Asante's tragic death has never been determined. He was simply in the wrong place at the wrong time.

"His death has left his family devastated. His young daughter will grow up without him in her life. This is the tragedy that stems from knife crime.

"The defendants, by contrast, left the scene of the murder and drove to a club to continue their night as if nothing had happened. They have been unwilling to explain why they were involved in such a ferocious and unprovoked attack on a man who had been sitting peacefully in his car.

"They chose to plead not guilty despite the overwhelming evidence that pointed to their involvement. They have now been convicted and the prison

sentence reflects the severity and violence of their actions.

“I would also like to take this opportunity to appeal for anyone who has information regarding the outstanding suspects in this investigation to come forward and speak with us. Whilst two men have been convicted, we know that others were involved. Please help us identify them.”

Speaking on behalf of his family, Angela Campbell (Asante's mother) said: "To begin to explain the impact the passing of my son Asante has had on us, is as hard as attempting to comprehend how he was senselessly taken. Every passing day does not alleviate the sharp pain we all share in coming to the realisation that we would never be able to have the privilege of being in his infectious presence again.

"Asante's charitable nature gained him many admirers, both young and old, extending to people from all walks of life. We will find some solace in the memories and stories we as a family cherish.

"No mother should have to bury a child, especially in these circumstances. The horror and futility of Asante's passing will forever haunt us all. In an attempt to mediate these feelings, we continue to acknowledge that he would want us to remain together and positive."

Enquiries remain ongoing to identify anyone else involved. If you have any information, please contact the incident room on 020 8358 0300 or contact Crimestoppers anonymously on 0800 555 111.

Hard calls save lives. *Are you close to someone on the fringes of knife crime? Do the right thing, please give information 100 per cent anonymously through the independent charity Crimestoppers. It can feel like a hard call, but it could save the life of someone you love.*

No piece of information about knife crime is insignificant or too small. Any information you give to Crimestoppers can make a difference in reducing knife crime and the harm it causes to families.

They never ask your name and they cannot trace your call, your IP address or the device you use. Fill in their quick [online form](#) or call 0800 555 111. It could save a life.