



Judge Garlawolu Sentences Ganta Armed Robber to 30 Years

Judge Serena F. Garlawolu, Presiding Judge of the 8th Judicial Circuit Court in Nimba County, has sentenced a notorious criminal, defendant Lee Menyen, to 30 years' imprisonment for crimes including Armed robbery, Criminal Attempt to commit murder, and Aggravated assault.

Defendant Menyen was found "Guilty" of terrorizing citizens in Ganta City, Nimba County, after attacking motorcyclists with a cutlass and stealing their motorbikes. Victims Forkie Gonyon and Blessing S. Dolo both suffered severe injuries during the attacks, with testimonies and evidence presented in court linking Menyen directly to the crimes.

The Defendant was brought under the jurisdiction of this Court when a formal indictment was drawn against him by the Office of the County Attorney of Nimba County; upon which authority a writ of arrest was issued out of the 8th Judicial Circuit Court of Nimba County on April 20, 2026 and placed in the hands of the Sheriff to effect the defendant's arrest and have him brought before Court for criminal prosecution. According to the Sheriff's returns, the writ of arrest was served in keeping with law.

The indictment charged the defendant with Armed Robbery, Criminal Attempt to Commit Murder and Aggravated Assault. The indictment further indicated that, on January 15, 2026, in Ganta City, Nimba County, defendant Lee Menyen, with a criminal mind, and without the fear of God,

purposely, intentionally and criminally used a cutlass and inflicted wounds on the peaceful body of private prosecutor, Forkie Gonyon during the course of an armed robbery of a Bajaj motorbike.

Menyen initially pleaded “Guilty”, but the court entered a “Not Guilty plea to ensure the State proved its case. The prosecution, represented by County Attorney, Cllr. John D. Miah, presented two witnesses whose testimonies corroborated the charges.

Judge Garlawolu relied on several provisions of the law in sentencing the defendant. The final ruling indicated, “Court says that the defendant having been adjudged guilty of the crimes charged, this Court shall proceed to sentence the defendant in keeping with **Chapter 3, section 3.3** of the Criminal Procedure Law of Liberia. Hence, defendant Lee Menyen is hereby sentenced to twenty (20) years jail imprisonment terms for the crime of Armed Robbery in keeping with **Section 15.34, paragraph 2 of the Penal Law**, five (5) years jail imprisonment terms for the crime of Criminal Attempt to Commit Murder in keeping with **Section 50.5, paragraph 2(b) of the Penal Law** and five (5) years jail imprisonment terms for the crime of Aggravated Assault in keeping with **Section 50.5, paragraph 2(b) of the Penal Law of Liberia**. The total jail imprisonment term of the defendant shall be thirty (30) years.