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THE SUPREME COURT OF
THE NORTHERN TERRITORY

SCC 22507039

THE KING

and

JEREMIAH WILSON

(Sentence)

BLOKLAND J

TRANSCRIPT OF PROCEEDINGS

AT DARWIN ON FRIDAY 15 MAY 2026

Transcribed by:
EPIQ

HER HONOUR: On 21 April of this year, Jeremiah Wilson pleaded guilty to two counts on an indictment dated 22 March 2026 as follows.

Count 1, entering or remaining in a building with the intention of committing an offence against s 181(1) whilst he was a trespasser. This count involved the following circumstances of aggravation, that the building was a dwelling house and the offence at night-time, that Jeremiah Wilson was in company with TC and another unknown person, it was a dwelling house, and that he had possession of a firearm or other offensive weapon, namely a nulla nulla, whilst committing the offence. The maximum penalty for that count is life imprisonment.

Count 2 that he pleaded guilty to was robbery, with circumstances of aggravation. The circumstances of aggravation were that Jeremiah Wilson was on company with TC and another unknown person and that he had possession of a firearm or other dangerous or offensive weapon, namely a nulla nulla, when committing the offence. The maximum penalty for that count is life imprisonment.

The facts are, in brief, that at approximately 2 am on 13 July 2024, Jeremiah Wilson entered an address in Desert Springs with two others. He was in possession of a nulla nulla. They formed a plan to steal items and potentially rob the victims at this address. They had gained access to the house using implements to damage the rear sliding door.

Whilst the two victims were asleep, the three offenders searched through rooms, cupboards and various areas around the house. They then all entered the victim's bedroom and stood over the victim.

One offender shone a flashlight on her face, which caused her to wake up. Jeremiah Wilson stood at the foot of the victim's bed brandishing a nulla nulla. The second offender was standing near her head while the third offender was standing in the middle of the other two.

One of the offenders told the victim to do as he said and demanded the keys to a vehicle. One of the offenders also said, "Do as he says or I'll fucken kill you." One of the offenders said, "Do what I say. Where are the fucking keys to the white car?"

The victim said she did not know where they were. Jeremiah Wilson responded, "Just give him the fucken keys or I'll hit you" whilst showing the nulla nulla and drawing his hands in a threatening manner.

Multiple threats of killing were made to the victim while they were demanding the keys. Jeremiah Wilson continue to threaten the victim while another offender searched the bedside drawer and emptied the contents of her bag. The other offender demanded the victim's passcode to her phone, took her bag, purse and phone and moved towards the lounge through the hallway.

All three then continued to steal and search through the house. They stole alcohol and, when leaving, one threw the victim's handbag and phone at her.

Alcohol of approximately \$300 was stolen, as well as around \$150 of other miscellaneous items. Jeremiah Wilson's fingerprints were located by police on a glass in the kitchen.

In terms of assessing the gravity of the offending, while the violent nature of the offending is not the only factor, it remains a very important factor in terms of the sentencing. The offence was, of course, unprovoked and occurred while the victims were asleep in their place of residence, where they should not expect to fear for their safety.

It is the kind of offending which causes great alarm in the community. Sentencing him will require the application of principles of deterrence, general and personal. There was a degree of planning evident between the three offenders.

The type of alarm such offending creates and, indeed, the types of harm, damage and fear can be seen as illustrated in the victim impact statements of JC and HL.

The victim, JC, regards this offending as a conscious decision of the offenders, which has had a lasting impact on her sense of safety. She is now constantly alert. She has had to spend significant sums of money on extra security. The psychological impact on her is ongoing. She wants him to be accountable. She wants financial compensation. All of what she has said is totally understandable.

Similar sentiments are expressed by HL, who was a house guest at the time and has needed counselling to get through the trauma, notwithstanding she was not the principal victim who I have described in the facts.

Jeremiah Wilson is currently 22 years old. He was 21 at the time of the offending. Obviously, I am conscious that I am dealing with a young offender. He has five pages of previous court matters. He entered the criminal justice system at the age of 17.

The previous entries include unlawfully cause serious harm, aggravated assault, burglary offences, breaches of bail and armed with an offensive weapon. The most recent offence, which was committed three weeks after the offences he is being sentenced for today, resulted in being convicted and sentenced by the Alice Springs Local Court for unlawfully possessing property, being armed with an offensive weapon at night, damaging property, trespassing and attempted burglary of a dwelling.

It was submitted on his behalf that he has been subject to a wide range of trauma throughout his life. The court was also told that he was under the influence of alcohol, which drove this offending.

It was accepted that although this self-induced intoxication cannot be a mitigating factor to this violent offending, the intoxication is relevant as helping to explain his impulsive and risk-taking behaviour through being unable to exercise

proper judgement. It does not necessarily help him significantly in sentencing. We cannot have people breaking into houses and terrorising women in their beds.

In terms of his personal history, he has resided with his siblings, mother and stepfather in Port Augusta, South Australia. He attended school in Port Augusta up until grade 11. He relocated to Alice Springs in around 2019 to undergo men's ceremony. He was going out bush for cultural practices and resided with family in Alice Springs.

After moving to Alice Springs, he reported struggling with continuing with school. He turned to friends, who were poor role models, but this was a form of escapism from his family, who consistently exposed him to violence. And I accept the submission that he has been subject to a wide range of trauma through his life. He wanted to do out bush but was drawn to family in town, who he found it hard to say no to.

He began drinking alcohol when he was around 14 years old. The court was told that since entering custody, he has been participating in the drug and alcohol programs which address his high-risk factors relevant to offending. It was submitted that his positive prospects for rehabilitation have been displayed through the following.

He obtained employment at the sawmill, he participated in cultural mentoring through Saltbush and Hoops for Health, he has undertaken courses in independent living and reintegration into the community and has undertaken courses related to drug and alcohol use.

Sadly, he has missed sorry business for an uncle and has found that other aspects of custody are difficult, and it is appreciated that custody is very difficult at the moment.

Submissions of behalf of the Crown outlined the aggravating circumstances and the vulnerability of the victims. The submissions highlighted the planning involved in burglary offences of this kind and his history for similar offending. It should also be noted that this is prevalent offending, therefore deterrence does have a particular role to play in sentencing.

He pleaded guilty at an early time, and this will be reflected in an adjustment in the order of 25 percent.

He has been in custody since 30 July 2024; however, he has been dealt with for other offending in the meantime. On 16 December 2024, he was sentenced to 17 months, with a non-parole period of 9 months.

On 16 December 2024, he was resentenced by the Youth Justice Court to 9 months. He was not released on parole. He was remanded on this file from 20 February 2025, although, the period referable solely to this offending begins on 29 December 2025.

I will make some further backdating, given totality considerations.

On count 1, namely entering or remaining in a building with the intention of committing an indictable offence or an offence against s 188(1), therein, while he was a trespasser and reckless in relation to that circumstance, he is convicted and sentenced to 3 years' imprisonment.

On count 2, namely aggravated robbery, convicted and sentenced to 3 years' imprisonment, which will commence after the service of one year for count 1.

That is a total of 4 years' imprisonment, which is to commence on 29 June 2025. And I fix a non-parole period of 2 years, which is also to commence from 29 June 2025.

So does everyone understand I have backdated back into the sentences that he was serving for some period and the non-parole period will run from then as well.

MS ROTH: Yes. May it please the court.

MS ALMAJED: Yes, your Honour. May it please.
