



Philadelphia killer gets 7 life sentences

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PHILADELPHIA, June 23 (UPI) -- Shihean Black was sentenced Monday to seven consecutive life sentences without parole for his role in the worst mass murder in Philadelphia's modern history.

Black repeatedly confessed his role in the killings while four innocent men sat behind bars.

Black pleaded guilty in February to the Dec. 28, 2000, crack house murders in West Philadelphia. In exchange for his plea, prosecutors agreed not to seek the death penalty.

Black was the second man to plead guilty in the case. The Philadelphia Inquirer says in November, Bruce "Snoop" Veney pleaded guilty to seven counts of third-degree murder in exchange for a 15- to 30-year sentence.

Brothers Dawid Faruqi and Khalid Faruqi are jailed awaiting trial.

The four original suspects in the case have filed suit against the city. Lawyers for Sacon Youk, Hezekiah Thomas, Quiante Perrin and Jermel Lewis allege that police ignored evidence clearing their clients, including Black's multiple confessions in the months after the murders.