



Letters To The Editor

Stop the Pillaging and Plundering of America

“We are devastated by the loss of security guard, and our friend Kevin Nishita. Our deepest sympathy goes to Kevin’s wife, his children, his family, and to all his friends and colleagues,” KRON-TV’s vice-president and general manager, Jim Rose, said in a statement November 27.

Kevin Nishita, a retired police officer, lost his life while working as a security guard for KRON-TV protecting a news crew covering the smash-and-grab robberies that have been plaguing California. Kevin was murdered when thieves turned their attention from robbing a clothing store near downtown Oakland to attempting to rob the news crew of their camera equipment.

These smash-and-grab thefts have escalated thanks to the über-liberal Left and their George Soros-sponsored prosecutors failing to perform their duties. These prosecutors hide behind a loophole in California law that makes theft below \$950.00 a misdemeanor. They use this law to claim it is not worth their time to prosecute, so they either plea bargain the crime down to a fine only, or outright dismiss the charge.

At issue here is whether laws against shoplifting less than \$950.00 worth of merchandise should be applied only to an individual acting alone. These smash-and-grab robberies being committed from Los Angeles to San Francisco and across the country are not being committed by individuals. These crimes are being committed by highly organized groups of individuals acting in a conspiracy. This was evidenced recently in Los Angeles when more than 80 suspects stormed a shopping mall then fled to numerous waiting getaway vehicles.

As these are highly coordinated gangs of thugs pillaging and plundering these cities — stealing by force, threat, or intimidation — these crimes should be charged as a conspiracy to commit robbery. The total value of all items taken should apply to all individuals caught, and they should be prosecuted for felony robbery. In addition, the majority of those committing these crimes have been armed with lethal weapons such as five-pound sledgehammers, tire irons, and firearms. Since these crimes are highly organized, the attorneys general of California and other states should bring charges under federal RICO statutes.

In California, when criminals are acting in a conspiracy, any crimes committed by any individual during commission of these actions, or in immediate flight therefrom, should apply to all individuals involved. Therefore, all individuals involved in the robbery leading to the murder of Kevin Nishita should be charged with felony murder. Under California Penal Code 187(a), inherently dangerous felony murder is committed during commission of any of the following crimes: residential burglary, robbery, rape, kidnapping, torture, mayhem, carjacking, arson, evading police, hostage taking, and more. The killing of Nishita fits that description. The felony murder of Kevin Nishita and all the consequences attached to it should apply to all individuals involved in the smash-and-grab robbery the KRON-TV crew were covering. Felony murder charges apply regardless of who committed the murder. The charges also apply whether anyone knew that an individual involved with him in the commission of the robbery was armed.

The murder of a retired police officer, who was still working to protect his community at the time of his death, should be an outrage that no one on the left or right should tolerate. The Oakland community,



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and all communities across this country where these crimes are being committed, should be screaming to their local district attorneys and politicians to put an end to these crime sprees by charging all defendants appropriately and to the highest extent of the law. It is the only way we will save our country from total chaos.

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