

# Nurul Asikin murder case transferred to High Court

**KUCHING:** The case involving e-hailing driver Zakwan Mokhtar, who was charged in December last year with the murder of Nurul Asikin Lan, has been ordered to be transferred to the High Court.

The accused, 23, nodded to indicate he understood the charge when it was read to him before Magistrate Syarifah Fatiman Azura Wan Ali during case mention yesterday.

No plea was recorded as murder falls under the jurisdiction of the High Court.

During the proceedings, deputy public prosecutor Jean Siow Chung Hwei informed the Magistrates' Court that the prosecution had received the DNA and post-mortem reports on the 28-year-old deceased, along with extracted WhatsApp messages relevant to the case.

Zakwan was charged on Dec 24 with causing the death of Nurul Asikin, whose decomposed body was discovered in a ditch at Jalan Setia Raja here on Dec 14.

The charge was framed under

Section 302 of the Penal Code, which carries the death penalty or between 30 and 40 years in prison, and if not sentenced to death, a minimum of 12 strokes of the cane.

He allegedly murdered Nurul Asikin because he reportedly needed money to fund a trip to Cambodia to watch a football match.

Zakwan, unrepresented, was arrested on the day her body was found and has been remanded at Puncak Borneo Prison since.