



Arthur (right) and Mahathir at the court following his discharge and acquittal.

# Man acquitted of charge of robbing elderly woman during 2023 break-in

**KUCHING:** The Kota Samarahan Sessions Court yesterday discharged and acquitted a 31-year-old man charged with robbing an elderly woman of a gold necklace during a house break-in in 2023.

Judge Shafiza Tready Abdul Razak ruled that the prosecution failed to establish a prima facie case against Mahathir Malik at the end of the prosecution's case.

Mahathir had been charged under Section 392 of the Penal Code which carries a jail term for

up to 14 years and liable to a fine or whipping.

He allegedly committed the offence at a house in Taman Paradise, Kota Samarahan at 9.30am on Aug 19, 2023.

In delivering her judgement, Judge Shafiza said the prosecution relied mainly on the identification by the first prosecution witness, which the court found was unsafe.

Apart from that, there was no evidence tendered to place the accused being present and/or

involved in the incident, she added.

It was understood that the owner of the necklace lodged a police report after an unknown man broke into her house, assaulted her, stole her gold necklace and handbag, and left her with neck injuries.

The prosecution was conducted by Insp Margaret Ena Mihos, replacing a deputy public prosecutor, while Mahathir was represented by counsel Arthur Liang Dawat.