

Man acquitted of murdering girlfriend's young son in 2021



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KUCHING: The High Court here has discharged and acquitted a 28-year-old Betong man of a murder charge involving his girlfriend's two-year-old son in 2021.

Judicial Commissioner Zaleha Mohd Yusuf Pan made the ruling after finding the prosecution had failed to establish a prima facie case against him at the close of its case.

The court found that there was no credible evidence to establish that the accused was at the scene when the incident occurred.

The man, who was 23 at the time, had been charged with causing the death of the child at an unnumbered house in Spaoh, Betong, between 8am and 10am on June 6, 2021.

The charge was framed under



The accused speaks to his lawyers at the court complex lobby.

Section 302 of the Penal Code, which provides for the death penalty or imprisonment of between 30 and 40 years and not less than 12 strokes of the cane upon conviction.

The victim was the son of the

accused's girlfriend, with whom he was living.

The boy died from intra-abdominal injuries caused by blunt force trauma.

The prosecution took 13 days to complete its case, beginning

on Sept 29, 2025, and continuing on Oct 1 and Dec 8-12, 2025, as well as Feb 24-26, 2026 and April 27-28, 2026.

During the proceedings, 63 exhibits were tendered and 14 witnesses were called.

The accused was represented by assigned counsels Dato Candida Entri, Abang Mohd Tosen, and Awangku Ariff Radhi Awang Ariffin.

Deputy public prosecutor Aida Nurdiana Che Kamarulzaman appeared for the prosecution.

In an earlier report, then Betong police chief DSP Zamry Alli said the boy was pronounced dead by a medical officer at Betong Hospital at 3.45pm on June 6, 2021.

He said a medical examination found several injuries and bruises on the boy's body, which could have contributed to his death.

Police arrested four family members of the boy, aged between 22 and 65, including his biological parents, for investigation.