



Cyprus court hands life sentence to ex-TV host

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Cyprus court hands life sentences to ex-TV host, brother, 2 others in media baron's murder

NICOSIA, Cyprus (AP) — Cyprus' criminal court has sentenced a former television presenter, her brother and two other men to life in prison after finding them guilty of premeditated murder in the execution-style killing of the country's most prominent media baron.

The three judge bench ruled Thursday that Elena Skordelli and her brother, Anastasios Krasopoullis, sought to kill 41-year-old Andy Hadjicostis because he stood in the way of her returning to Sigma TV after being fired from the popular station that the victim managed.

The siblings had also sought to gain a majority stake in the station, something Hadjicostis had vehemently opposed.

The court said the other two defendants, Andreas Gregoriou and Gregoris Xenofontos, had planned and executed the Jan. 11, 2010 fatal shooting of Hadjicostis outside his Nicosia home.