

Beat: Vips

Blade Runner Pistorius ;consumed with sorrow; over girlfriend?s

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USPA News - South African athlete Oscar Pistorius expressed regret Friday for the death of his girlfriend Reeva Steenkamp, one year after shooting her to death at his home in Pretoria. "No words can adequately capture my feelings about the devastating accident that has caused such heartache for everyone who truly loved - and continues to love Reeva. The pain and sadness - especially for Reeva's parents, family and friends consumes me with sorrow," the Paralympian said in a statement a year after the alleged murder.

"The loss of Reeva and the complete trauma of that day, I will carry with me for the rest of my life." On February 14, 2013, police found the body of 29-year-old Reeva Steenkamp inside of Pistorius' home in Pretoria, a city in the northern part of Gauteng Province. Police reported that Steenkamp had been shot four times through a door while in the bathroom. Officers arrested Pistorius for murder after they discovered a 9mm pistol in the home. During a court hearing after the shooting, Pistorius claimed he had shot Steenkamp after confusing her with an intruder he believed was inside the house, but prosecutors have accused the athlete of murder. On February 22, 2013, Pistorius was freed on bail set at an estimated \$100,000. Pistorius will face trial at the North Gauteng High Court in early March on charges of premeditated murder and reckless use of a firearm in public. The famed athlete denies the charges, insisting the fatal shooting of his girlfriend was accidental. "We have every confidence as a family that when the world has heard the full evidence that this will prove to be a terrible and tragic accident which has changed many lives forever," said Arnold Pistorius, uncle of Oscar Pistorius, in a second statement released on Friday. "We are praying for everyone touched by this tragedy." At the 2012 Summer Olympics in London, Pistorius participated as the first double-leg amputee to ever compete in the Olympics. He took part in the men's 400m and 4X400m relay races.

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