

Media Statement



Tel: +27 12 845 6000

Email:
media@npa.gov.za

Victoria & Griffiths
Mxenge Building
123 Westlake Avenue
Weavind Park
Silverton
Pretoria

www.npa.gov.za

TO: ALL MEDIA

DATE: 27 AUGUST 2015

RE: NO MERCY TOWARDS VIGILANTISM

On 26 August 2016, Judge Borchers sentenced Stanley Botha (31) to an effective term of 16 years direct imprisonment. The accused was convicted of murder and theft after pleading guilty on 04 August 2015.

The deceased, Neville Ross (75) was a well-known person in the area of Krugersdorp as he used to teach piano lessons to learners from various schools. The accused told the court that it was during some of these lessons where he would invite young male children to his home where he would watch pornographic material with them. The deceased would thereafter instruct these boys to perform sexual acts with him. On 03 January 2014, the deceased invited the accused to his home to watch porn movies and thereafter asked the accused that they should 'jerk one another'. It was during the commission of this sexual act when the accused grabbed a statue and attacked the deceased twice on his head.

A day after the murder, he ransacked the house of the deceased and took away certain electrical appliances of the deceased. He also took the body of the deceased and hid it under the trees in the deceased's premises. He later sold the deceased's property to a local swop shop. Upon payment, he left Gauteng and was arrested in Durban where he allegedly made a confession to murder in a restaurant. The accused was then arrested and brought back to Gauteng where he pleaded guilty and was convicted on the same day, 04 August 2015.

Despite pleading guilty, senior state advocate, Lwazi Ngodwana argued that imprisonment is the only appropriate sentence as it will serve to deter people from taking the law into their own hands. He further pleaded with the court to send a strong message that being a victim gives no right to deprive others the right to life.

The NPA wishes to encourage citizens to uphold the rule of law by reporting crime and allowing law enforcement authorities to deal with perpetrators.

The NPA welcomes the sentence.

Kind Regards,

Hurbetin Phindi Louw

Regional Spokesperson: DPP South Gauteng

011 2204245/0834024787

hlouw@npa.gov.za