

# Media Statement



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**TO: ALL MEDIA**

**DATE: 9 SEPTEMBER 2015**

**RE: HEAVY SENTENCE HANDED TO A 419 SCAM SWINDLER**

Muyiwa Obafemi was sentenced to nine years direct imprisonment after he was convicted for running a 419 and online dating scam. He was sentenced at the Bellville Specialised Commercial Court [today](#) after the court convicted him on nine counts of fraud and a count of contravening Section 18(2)(a) of the Riotous Assemblies Act 17 of 1956. On the conspiracy count, the accused was sentenced to 12 months imprisonment wholly suspended for five years.

He took R338 888,00 from his victims through his scams. The accused operated a scheme of creating false on-line dating profiles. The one created in this case was "Joy Dlodlo" who ostensibly was a white blond lady who inherited R16 million from her late father. The complainant had to pay monies over to ensure that the money could become available. The complainant, Ken Sen Lui, fitted the profile of persons that can be easily lured by such schemes. He testified that he was at a school for special needs.

Advocate Juan Agulhas successfully prosecuted the matter. The court found that the quality of evidence especially the cellular phone record, the inherent improbabilities in the accused version and the circumstantial evidence was such that his (accused) version was rejected.

"The accused asked for a non-custodial sentence but we asked for a custodial sentence. We are happy with the sentence that was handed down. This is a pure 419 and/or on-line dating scam that was successfully prosecuted. This provides a good precedent which might be followed in the future", Advocate Agulhas said.

The NPA welcomes this sentence as it sends out a clear message that this type of crime will not be tolerated.

Kind Regards,

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