

Media Statement



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TO: ALL MEDIA

DATE: 06 April 2016

RE: 20 YEARS IMPRISONMENT FOR RAPIST

Phakamani Vovo Cele (35) was sentenced to 20 years imprisonment in the Scottburgh Regional Court last week after the court found him guilty of rape and robbery with aggravating circumstances.

The incident occurred in the Hibberdene area in July 2013 when the accused broke in the complainant's house. He demanded money and when the complainant said that she didn't have any, he told her that he was going to rape her. The accused asked the complainant for a condom and on finding out that she didn't have one, he resorted to using a piece of plastic. Thereafter the accused fled the scene taking the woman's cell phone and R100.

The evidence that linked the accused to the crime was that the woman was able to identify him as they lived in the same area. Furthermore, he was linked via DNA found on a T shirt that he had used to wipe himself and the complainant after the rape.

The accused was sentenced to 15 years imprisonment for rape and 10 years imprisonment for robbery with aggravating circumstances; five years was ordered to run concurrently with the 15 years, thus resulting in an effective 20 year sentence.

This matter was finalised by Regional Court Prosecutor, Akhile Gcume.

The National Prosecuting Authority welcomes the sentence.

Kind Regards,

Natasha Kara

Regional Spokesperson: DPP KZN

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