

Media Statement



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TO: ALL MEDIA

DATE: 07 April 2016

RE: MAN SENTENCED TO 35 YEARS IMPRISONMENT FOR ROBBERY

On 5 April 2016, the Port Elizabeth Regional Court sentenced Phumalni Mafu to 10 years direct imprisonment for robbery with aggravating circumstances, 10 years direct imprisonment for attempted murder, 5 years direct imprisonment for theft, 5 years direct imprisonment for possession of firearm and 5 years direct imprisonment for possession of ammunition.

On 2 February 2014, the G4 security truck was at the Ziyabuya Shopping Mall at Kwa-Dwesi in Port Elizabeth to pick cash from Shoprite. The crew member went into the shop to make the pickup and after receiving the cash box he proceeded back to the G4 truck. As he was about to go out the front door of Shoprite a male grabbed his 38 Special Revolver with six rounds inside of his holster. The crew member tried to run but he fell outside the shop and it is at this time that the robber tried to shoot him but the fire arm was on safe mode.

The robber then grabbed the cash box and ran away. The driver of the G4 truck noticed the robbery and he chased the robber with the truck. Coincidentally, Warrant Officer Zane Bosch and Constable Qiba who were driving on the national road noticed the robber running carrying a firearm and they quickly gave chase and arrested him. The box with R280 000 and a firearm were recovered.

The accused pleaded not guilty on all charges and denied the fact that he was ever near Ziyabuya Shopping Mall on the day. The court evaluated the evidence and was satisfied that the state had proven its case beyond reasonable doubt. The accused was also declared unfit to possess a firearm. State prosecutor Lusanda Gwama represented the state.

The NPA welcomes the sentence.

Kind Regards,

Tsepo Ndwalaza

Regional Spokesperson: DPP PE & Grahamstown

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