

# Media Statement



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**TO: ALL MEDIA**

**DATE: 12 APRIL 2016**

**RE: LIFE SENTENCE FOR RAPIST**

Bongani Monco (30) was sentenced to life imprisonment by the Centane Regional Court on Thursday, 07 April 2016 after the court found him guilty of rape and robbery with aggravating circumstances.

The incident occurred on the night of 07 May 2014 in Thuthurha village in the district of Centane when Monco broke into an elderly couple's house. His 60 year- old victim was asleep, with her 96 year-old husband, when she was woken up by a man already on top of her. The intruder demanded money, her cell phone and sex. It was dark in the room and the rapist stabbed the elderly woman on her hand and started raping her. When the husband asked who the rapist was, rapist turned on the elderly man and stabbed him a number of times. With the couple terrified in the dark, the man continued raping the granny at least four times until the early hours of the morning. When the rapist left, the frail woman had to crawl to the neighbour's house for help as she had been badly injured.

The rapist was convicted after the evidence of the victim and DNA linked him to the crime. Regional Court Prosecutor, Nontle Sakwe convinced the court that life imprisonment was the most appropriate sentence because the elderly victim was raped more than once. Monco was also sentenced to five years for the assault with intent to do grievous bodily harm. Both sentences were ordered to run concurrently.

The National Prosecuting Authority welcomes the sentence with the hope that it will serve as a deterrent to would-be rapist who prey on vulnerable elderly people.

Kind Regards,

**Luxolo Tyali**

**Regional Spokesperson: DPP Mthatha**

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