

# Media Statement



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**TO: ALL MEDIA**

**DATE: 07 JULY 2016**

**RE: MEN SENTENCED FOR STRING OF ROBBERIES**

Mfanufikile Nzama (34), Muhle Mkhize (35) and Bongani Hlabisa (24) were sentenced to an effective 20, 18 and 13 years imprisonment respectively in the Durban Regional Court on Monday.

The men were responsible for two incidents of robbery and theft in July 2013. In the first two instances they robbed a house in Westville and one in Phoenix. Their third offence was when they stole items from a car that was parked at a Durban hospital.

Accused 1 was sentenced to 5 years imprisonment for attempted murder which will run concurrently with his 15 year sentence for robbery with aggravating circumstances. He was further sentenced to 3 years for theft and 2 years for being in possession of a cell phone that was taken during the Westville house robbery.

Accused 2 was sentenced to 15 years imprisonment for robbery with aggravating circumstances and 3 years imprisonment for theft.

Accused 3 was sentenced to 10 years imprisonment for robbery with aggravating circumstances as the presiding officer found that he played a non-violent role in the robbery. The court also considered his age and the likelihood that he was influenced by his co-accused. He was sentenced to 3 years imprisonment for theft.

Regional court prosecutor Siyabonga Majola asked the court not to deviate from imposing the minimum sentence of 15 years imprisonment due to the brazenness and

brutality of the accused during the robbery. He also told the court that the accused had shown no remorse throughout the trial.

The NPA welcomes this sentence. We hope that this will have the necessary deterrent effect on would-be offenders.

Kind Regards,

**Natasha Kara**

**Regional Spokesperson: DPP KZN**

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