

Media Statement



Tel: +27 12 845 6000

Email:
media@npa.gov.za

Victoria & Griffiths
Mxenge Building
123 Westlake Avenue
Weavind Park
Silverton
Pretoria

www.npa.gov.za

TO: ALL MEDIA

DATE: 08 JUNE 2016

RE: TWO RAPISTS SENTENCED TO LIFE IMPRISONMENT

Two men from Phase 4 in Bloemfontein were yesterday sentenced to life imprisonment each by the Bloemfontein Magistrate's Court after they were found guilty of rape and kidnapping. Magistrate Levit Mukansi sentenced Thabo Alexandra Koalane (31) and Motlalentoa Moses Mokhele (29) to life imprisonment for rape and three years each for kidnapping.

The court heard that on 14 June 2015, the victims went to Kenelworth Spar in Rocklands to buy food at about 3am. While they were waiting for a taxi to go back home, they were approached by Koalane who was driving a green Polo classic. He offered to drive them home and they agreed. Koalane first drove with the victims to a bottle store in Phahameng to buy liquor.

He then drove to Phase 4 and the victims asked him to take them back to Phahameng but he refused. He took out his firearm and fired a shot in the air through the window. He threatened the victims and told them that he is taking them to his place. He forced them into a shack where they found Mokhele.

He instructed Mokhele to take one victim to the other shack. Mokhele left the girl alone in the shack until the morning. Koalane raped the girl that was with him in the room but Mokhele did not rape the girls. The girls were allowed to leave in the morning. They reported the matter to the police and both accused were arrested.

The girl that was raped died before the start of the trial but state prosecutor, Ronell Botha used hearsay evidence that was found to be admissible by the court. The second

victim created a very favourable impression to the court even after extensive cross-examination. Her evidence corroborated the statement of the deceased in every respect.

Magistrate Mukansi was convinced that the hearsay evidence presented by the prosecutor and the evidence of one of the victims was enough to convict both accused. He stated that even though Mokhele did not rape the girls he assisted Koalane in raping one of them. He subsequently sentenced both accused to life imprisonment for rape and three years for kidnapping.

The DPP in the Free State, Advocate Xolisile Khanyile has applauded the good work that was done by the investigating officer and the prosecutor in ensuring that these rapists face the full might of the law.

The NPA welcomes the sentence.

Kind Regards,

Phaladi Shuping

Regional Spokesperson: DPP Free State

Enquiries: pshuping@npa.gov.za

083 699 5900