

Media Statement



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TO: ALL MEDIA

DATE: 24 June 2016

RE: TWO LIFE TERMS & 18 YEARS FOR RAPE, KIDNAPPING & ASSAULT

On 17 June 2016 the Port Elizabeth High Court sentenced Andile Mafana and Wesley Japhta to two life terms and 18 years for 2 counts of kidnapping, two counts of rape, attempted robbery and assault with intent to do grievous bodily harm. They kidnapped a 15 year-old girl and assaulted her boyfriend on 27 November 2014.

It is alleged in court papers that the minor who cannot be named and her boyfriend were walking in the streets of Missionvale in Port Elizabeth when the accused approached them and kidnaped the girl and assaulted her boyfriend and left him for dead.

The court found them guilty as charged and sentenced them accordingly. Advocate Garth Baartman represented the state and was able to prove to the court beyond reasonable doubt that indeed the two men worked together with common purpose in respect of all the crimes.

The NPA welcomes the sentence, and we hope that it will send a very strong message that our courts will not tolerate criminals who terrorise our communities.

Kind Regards,

Tsepo Ndwalaza

Regional Spokesperson: DPP PE & Grahamstown

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