

# Media Statement



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**TO: ALL MEDIA**

**DATE: 04 MAY 2016**

**RE: FIVE CRIMINALS SENTENCED TO LIFE FOR MURDER, ROBBERY AND ASSAULT**

The Port Elizabeth High Court sentenced five men, Tobani Kambe (19), Vusumzi Badi (22), Nkosinathi Fani (26), Masixole Solani (20), Sithembiso Mayinje (24) and Thembekile Ndabankulu (24) all from Motherwell to life imprisonment for murder, robbery with aggravating circumstances, and assault with intent to do grievous bodily harm on 04 April 2016.

In the court papers it is revealed that on the morning of 25 November 2010 the deceased, Liwa Maqolo and his two friends were walking in Njakazi Street in Motherwell. They were attacked by the six accused. The deceased was robbed of his clothing, shoes and cellular phone and bludgeoned to death by the accused using an axe(s). One of the deceased friends was hit with an unknown object in the stomach but he managed to escape. The deceased was left behind.

All the accused were found guilty on all counts and were sentenced as follows: 15 years each for count 1, Life imprisonment for count 2 and 10 years each for count 3 and the sentences will run concurrently.

Senior State Advocate Mzwamadoda Mnyani based at the DDPP Port Elizabeth represented the state in this matter.

We believe that the sentence will return community's confidence in the criminal justice system.

The NPA welcomes the sentence.

Kind Regards,

**Tsepo Ndwalaza**

**Regional Spokesperson: DPP PE & Grahamstown**

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