

Media Statement



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TO: ALL MEDIA

DATE: 05 MAY 2016

RE: WOMAN SENTENCED FOR SELLING BABY

A twenty-year old woman was sentenced in the Pietermaritzburg Regional Court yesterday after she pleaded guilty to selling her baby by posting an advert on the Gumtree website.

The accused pleaded guilty to: selling the child and receiving payment for the sale thus commodifying the child, receiving proceeds from the unlawful activity of selling her child and placing an advertisement for the sale of the child.

She further elaborated that she had decided to sell the child when her boyfriend stopped paying child support after finding out that the child was not his. She placed the advert in September last year, selling the 19 month old baby for R5000. She received a response from a woman three days later. The woman told her that she wanted to buy the baby and they met at a fast food outlet in the Pietermaritzburg CBD. At the meeting the accused received R5000 and she handed the baby over to the unknown woman. She was arrested as she left the food outlet. The buyer was a police officer who was part of a sting operation that had been set up after the police had been alerted.

The accused was sentenced to a period of five years imprisonment which was wholly suspended as well as correctional supervision.

The matter was prosecuted by senior state advocate Val Dafel. The NPA accepts the sentence given by the court considering the circumstances of this particular case.

Kind Regards,

Natasha Kara

Regional Spokesperson: DPP KZN

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