

# Media Statement



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**TO: ALL MEDIA**

**DATE: 27 September 2016**

**RE: HUSBAND SENTENCED TO LIFE IMPRISONMENT**

Last week, the Phalaborwa Circuit Court sentenced Nkhensani Fickson Mhlongo (60) to life imprisonment for killing his ex-wife, Mamayila Esther Baloyi (58).

According to evidence presented in court, during the day on 19 April 2015, both were in their matrimonial house together with the personnel of the chief in the New Canada village when the accused stabbed the deceased 21 times with a screwdriver. The deceased was murdered while she was packing her belongings as she was no longer in love with the accused because he was abusive.

The murder took place a year later after the magistrate's court granted a final protection order against the accused for abusing his partner, Mamayila Esther Baloyi. He never pleaded guilty and he was found guilty as charged.

Advocate Mashudu Mudau had called for the accused to be sentenced to life due to the gruesome manner which the victim was killed. He argued that the deceased had a protection order against the accused at the time of her death.

Handing down the sentence Judge Legodi Phatudi said women's right to freedom should be respected. The court said that deceased lost her life simply because she was no longer interested in Mhlongo as he was abusive. Regardless of the accused's age the court felt that there were no substantial and compelling circumstances warranting a deviation from the minimum sentence.

The NPA welcomes the sentence.

Kind Regards,

**Mashudu Malabi-Dzhang**  
**Regional Spokesperson: DPP Limpopo**