

Media Statement



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TO: ALL MEDIA

DATE: 29 September 2016

RE: SERIAL RAPIST AND MURDERER REMOVED FROM SOCIETY

A former employee of the Aquarius Platinum Mine in Rustenburg was sentenced to 4 life imprisonment terms plus an additional 45 years by the High Court sitting in Palmridge on Tuesday, 27 September 2016.

Thapelo Matsehi, 31 was arraigned on 11 charges ranging from rape, murder, kidnapping and attempted rape and was convicted on 10 counts in June 2016 by the same court. These were the murders and rapes of people well known to Matsehi as amongst his victims was his best friend's sister, a neighbour's child and a former colleague.

The state argued that Matsehi was a confirmed serial rapist and a serial murderer who has shown no remorse and that chances that he might be rehabilitated were very slim. During sentencing proceedings, State Advocate, Steven Rubin led the evidence of one of the victim's family, who told the court how Matsehi continued to threaten her family after his conviction. The mother whose daughter was killed by Motsehi testified about the emotional pain of losing her daughter and how the convict continued adding to the pain already inflicted upon her by threatening to come after her upon his release.

The state pleaded with the court not to deviate from the minimum prescribed sentence of life imprisonment for each count of rape and each count of murder due to the gravity of the offences committed and as part of ensuring that these families are protected from the convict.

The NPA welcomes the sentence.

Kind Regards,

Hurbetin Phindi Louw

Regional Spokesperson: DPP South Gauteng

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