

# Media Statement



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**TO: ALL MEDIA**

**DATE: 30 September 2016**

**RE: RAPIST SENTENCED**

Zizamele Phungula (32) was sentenced to life and 15 years imprisonment in the Scottburgh Regional Court last week for the rape and robbery he committed in the Braemer area.

The 15 year-old complainant was returning home from the shop when she was accosted by the accused who demanded money from her at knife point. The complainant gave the accused all the money she had as well as the item she had bought from the shop. The accused then dragged her into a ditch below the road where he forcefully removed her clothing and raped her.

The state, represented by Regional Court Prosecutor, Akhile Gcume led the evidence of six witnesses as well as the complainant. He also handed in a victim impact statement facilitated by Court Preparation Officer, Nthuthuko Ngobese.

In aggravation of sentence, Gcume told the court that the offence was serious and prevalent. The victim was affected by the incident to such an extent that her academic performance has deteriorated and she was also scared to go out alone, even during the day.

The Director of Public Prosecutions, Advocate Moipone Noko welcomes the sentence and deems it appropriate in light of the offences committed.

Kind Regards,

**Natasha Kara**

**Regional Spokesperson: DPP KZN**