Media Statement

NATIONAL PROSECUTING AUTHORITY
South Africa

TO: **ALL MEDIA**

DATE: **28 JULY 2015**

RE: **LIFE IMPRISONMENT FOR BIOLOGICAL FATHER**

A 53 year-old biological father was sentenced by the Lehurutshe Regional Court for the rape of his 15 year-old daughter. The father who stayed with the victim, the mother and siblings at Borakalo village near Zeerust raped her daughter twice on 31 March 2012 and 31 April 2012. At the commission of this horrific ordeal, she was only 15 years' old.

After her first incident she reported the matter to her mother and she unfortunately did not believe her and his father threatened to kill her if she reported the incident to anyone. She endured this ordeal day and night. Unfortunately her school performance dropped dramatically due to her sexual abuse and spent several months emotionally and psychologically destroyed. During November 2012 she received a report from school that she failed all her subjects. At that point she decided to report what happened to her aunt. Her aunt arranged a meeting of both families [family of the husband and the wife]. The father confessed to raping her daughter and asked for forgiveness. The matter was reported to the police. The mother of the victim decided to move out of the house after the husband was arrested.

During trial the father denied that he apologised and claimed his in-laws hated him and did not approve of his relationship with their daughter. He said he was a victim of false charges. The court accepted the evidence of the victim and the father was found guilty of 2 counts of rape. He was sentenced to life imprisonment and ordered that his name be entered in the National Register for Sexual Offenders.

The NPA welcomes the sentence as it will serve as deterrent to people who intend to commit these heinous sexual offences.

Kind Regards,

Justice in our society, so that people can live in freedom and security

Frank Lesenyego

Regional Spokesperson: DPP North West

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