## **Media Statement**



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TO: ALL MEDIA

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RE: ANOTHER LIVESTOCK THIEF SENTENCED IN ERMELO

The Ermelo Regional Court sentenced Senzo Jele (23) for stock theft on Monday, 11 September 2017. The court sentenced him to 18 months imprisonment and a further three years wholly suspended for five years.

The court heard that in December 2010, eight goats were seized at Mayflower by members of the stock theft unit and held at the Ermelo pound for further investigation. The accused together with an unknown person stole those goats from the pound and cut their throats.

On aggravation, Regional Court Prosecutor Charles Lloyd argued that by removing the goats from the pound, cut their throats and dump them in the nearby field, the accused was trying to destroy the evidence.

During sentencing the Magistrate, Eben Jonker said stock theft is a prevalent offence in the Ermelo area through which stock owners suffer financial losses. He also mentioned that the accused has a similar previous conviction and that he showed no remorse for his action.

On the charge of stock theft, he sentenced him to 18 months imprisonment and a further three years wholly suspended for five years on condition that the accused is not convicted for theft or attempted theft during the time of suspension.

The NPA welcomes the sentence and congratulates Prosecutor Lloyd and his team for successful prosecution.

Kind Regards,

Monica Nyuswa Regional Communications Manager Mpumalanga Satellite Office