

# Media Statement



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**TO: ALL MEDIA**

**DATE: 30 April 2015**

**RE: Zimbabwean Man Sentenced to 18 Years Direct Imprisonment**

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## **ZIMBABWEAN MAN SENTENCED TO 18 YEARS DIRECT IMPRISONMENT FOR KILLING, MUTILATING THE BODY OF HIS VICTIM AND EATING HIS HEART**

Andrew Chimboza, who brutally killed Mbuyiseli Manona, aggressively mutilated his body, removed his heart and ate it, has been sentenced to 18 years direct imprisonment. Yesterday morning Judge Ashley Binns – Ward of the Western Cape High Court sentenced the 35 year-old Zimbabwean and said murder, even without premeditation, is one of the most serious offences that there is.

"No substantial and compelling circumstances exist to warrant a departure from the prescribed minimum sentence. Indeed the extreme brutality of the assault and the absence of remorse by the accused for what he has done outweigh the mitigating factors in his personal circumstances and his relatively clean record.

The NPA welcomes this sentence.

Mbuyiseli Manona was the partner of Nomonde Tshabalala. The accused claimed in his plea statement that he went to Nomonde Tshabalala's house in Gugulethu on 04 June 2014 to repair the tint job that he had done on her house's windows. He claims that Nomonde was his friend and that she had assisted him by organising customers, helped with proof of residency and opening a bank account. He claimed that Manona was unhappy about his presence in the house that evening, called him names and assaulted him. Chimboza claimed that the deceased attacked him and that he defended himself,

slit his throat and repeatedly stabbed the deceased. He realised later that the deceased was dead.

Although Chimboza flatly denied mutilating his victim's body and ate his heart, the evidence of the forensic pathologist who conducted the post-mortem paints a different scenario. Dr Hoosen Alli told the court that when he received the body of the deceased, it was accompanied by a plastic bag which had clean cut pieces of the deceased's heart. Dr Alli also told the court that there was flap of flesh on the left hand side of the chest which indicated that the chest was opened and the heart was taken out. The deceased also had wounds to the neck and multiple rib fractures which would have made it difficult for the deceased to breathe.

State witness told the court that he saw Chimboza removing the heart of Manona, cut it up using fork and knife and started eating it. All the while the accused uttered:

"Nomonde, I love you. You are the love of my heart. I do everything for you."

This evidence was confirmed by the investigating officer Mlungisi Landule who was called by Advocate Sibiya to testify in aggravation of sentence. Officer Landule said he found Chimboza in the main bedroom holding a piece of flesh in his hands and gnawing on it. Although the state and defence closed their cases more than a month ago, Judge Bins-Ward ordered that the accused be sent for observation at the Valkenberg Psychiatric Hospital in order to understand what caused him to behave in the manner he did.

Chimboza also told a panel of three specialist psychiatrists from Valkenberg Psychiatric Hospital that Nomonde had coerced him to commit the murder and that she demanded that he present her with the deceased's heart.

He never accepted responsibility to the end.

Kind Regards,

Issued by:

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