## **Media Statement**



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TO: ALL MEDIA

**DATE:** 01 JULY 2021

RE: CASE AGAINST CHILD MURDERER POSTPONED

The Klerksdorp Magistrates' Court postponed the murder case against a 47-year-old man from Alabama to 20 August 2021 for further investigations.

The investigating officer is yet to complete compiling outstanding witness statements and photographic evidence in preparation for the trial.

The accused's appearance comes after a lifeless body of a toddler was discovered inside the ceiling of his residential home. He was charged for kidnapping and murder of his two-year-old daughter

It is alleged that on Thursday 13 May 2021, the man went to his girlfriend's home at extension 20 in Jouberton and took their daughter without the consent of the mother who was in hospital at the time. The family members who at the time were taking care of the child, assumed he would bring back the child as he usually did. Upon inquiry, he denied taking the child.

On 14 May 2021 when the mother got discharged from hospital, she went on a search for the baby with the help of family members but they could not find her. The following day, she went to Jouberton Police Station where a case of a missing person was opened.

Further investigations by the police led to the arrest of the father on Sunday 16 May 2021. He was charged with kidnapping after failing to tell the police where the child was. It is alleged that on Monday 17 May 2021 following a bad smell coming from the suspect's house, the neighbours investigated and discovered the lifeless body of the child hidden inside the ceiling.

The police were called and a murder charge was added.

The accused abandoned his bail application and will remain in police custody until his next court appearance.

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