

Media Statement



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TO : ALL MEDIA

DATE : 11 OCTOBER 2017

RE : CHILD RAPIST SENTENCED

On Tuesday, 10 October 2017, the Butterworth Regional Court sentenced Thukela Myekeni (25) to 25 years imprisonment for raping his six year-old neighbour two years ago.

According to evidence presented in court, on 05 October 2015, the six year-old girl was playing with her seven year old brother and Thukela's five year-old brother at his home in Mchubakazi Township in the district of Butterworth. The rapist gave the two young boys R2 to go buy him a cigarette at a nearby Spaza Shop. While the boys were away, he dragged the toddler to his room and raped her. A woman who was lodging at Thukela's homestead, walked in on the rapist while in the act and she immediately alerted the parents of the victim. The infant was taken to Butterworth Thuthuzela Care Centre where the doctor confirmed that she had been raped and Thukela was arrested after community members apprehended him.

During trial, Thukela pleaded not guilty but the court convicted him after Regional Court Prosecutor, Luyanda Gobingca led the evidence of the adult neighbour who caught the rapist red-handed, and presented DNA results which linked the rapist to the crime.

The NPA welcomes the sentence with the hope that it will deter other would-be rapists who prey on defenceless women and children.

Kind Regards,

Luxolo Tyali
Regional Spokesperson
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