

# Media Statement



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**TO: ALL MEDIA**

**DATE: 13 OCTOBER 2017**

**RE: DPP's DECISION ON CHARGES AGAINST THE WOMAN DUBBED  
THE "LION MAMA"**

On 01 September 2017, a 57 year-old woman who found men gang-raping her daughter allegedly stabbed one of them to death and injured two. The woman cannot be named to protect the identity of her daughter who is a rape victim. The woman admitted to the killing and was arrested and the matter was placed on the roll by the prosecutor, who at that stage found there was sufficient evidence to do so.

She was charged with one count of murder and two counts of attempted murder and was granted bail of R500 and the case was postponed to 10 October 2017. The docket was referred to the office of the Director of Public Prosecutions (DPP) for decision.

Taking into consideration various legal principles, including but not exclusive, of self-defence and private defence in relation with the particular merits of this case, the DPP decided as follows:

- Declined to prosecute the accused at this stage.
- That the statements in the police docket be submitted to magistrate in terms of Section 5 of Act 58 of 1959 with the view of holding a formal inquest into the death of Zamile Siyeka.
- Should the magistrate decide to hear oral evidence he will call witnesses to testify, including the accused woman.
- After the magistrate has made a finding, the record of the proceedings will be forwarded to the DPP to make a decision on whether criminal prosecution will follow or not.

Depending on the evidence before the DPP, if it is established that there was intent to kill, a murder charge will be laid or alternatively if negligence is established, charges of

culpable homicide will be preferred against a person or persons found to have committed a crime.

Kind Regards,

**Luxolo Tyali**  
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