

# Media Statement



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**TO: ALL MEDIA**

**DATE: 14 MAY 2018**

**RE: DIRECT IMPRISONMENT FOR TOP POLICE OFFICIALS & A  
BUSINESSMAN FOR CORRUPTION AND FRAUD**

The NPA welcomes the sentences handed down to Cape Town businessman Saleem Dawjee, two of his business corporations, former Provincial Police Commissioner Lt General Arno Lamoer, Bellville Cluster Commander Brigadier Darius van der Ross and Cape Town Central Station Commander Brigadier Kolin Govender at the Western Cape High Court today.

This brings to a successful conclusion a difficult and sensitive corruption case against the accused. Commencing in 2013, the DPCI's Serious Anti-Corruption Investigating Unit conducted the investigation in close liaison with the office of the DPP. The trial commenced in April 2017. The accused initially pleaded not guilty. The state presented evidence over many months, both on the merits and in a trial-within-a-trial, after the defence contested certain evidence.

The trial was destined to last many more months, if not years. The defence then approached the state with a view to settling the matter by abandoning the trial-within-a-trial, six of the seven accused tendering pleas of guilty to the main corruption charges, and some related other fraud and defeating ends of justice charges. After careful consideration, the prosecution accepted the guilty pleas and undertook not to press for custodial sentences. The court duly convicted six of the seven accused in accordance with the evidence on record and the pleas of guilty. The court then heard evidence on sentence, which included SAPS, IPID and NPA statistics on corruption and correctional and probation reports regarding the accused.

Today, the court sentenced Dawjee to 47 years on different charges of corruption, fraud and defeating the ends of justice. The court suspended two years of his first sentence of eight years direct imprisonment, for five years on condition he is not convicted of

corruption committed during the period of suspension. The court then ordered all the other sentences to run concurrently. This means he is effectively sentenced to six years direct imprisonment.

His company, Towbars Cape CC, has been fined R60 000 with R40 000 suspended for five years provided that it is not convicted of corruption or defeating the ends of justice committed during the period of suspension.

Lt General Lamoer has been sentenced to eight years direct imprisonment with two years suspended for five years on condition that he is not convicted of corruption during the period of suspension.

Brigadier Van der Ross has been sentenced to four years direct imprisonment with two years suspended for five years on condition that he is not convicted of corruption committed during the period of suspension.

Six years direct imprisonment with two years suspended for five years on condition that he was not get convicted of corruption committed during the period of suspension for Brigadier Govender.

The NPA regards the conviction for corruption of a former Provincial Commissioner of SAPS, together with three of the former highest-ranking SAPS officers in the province and the businessman and his corporations who corrupted them, as a rare and major success in the fight against grand corruption, to which the NPA is committed.

Kind Regards,

**Eric Ntabazalila**  
**National Prosecuting Authority**  
**Regional Communications Manager**  
**Western Cape**