

# Media Statement



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**TO: ALL MEDIA**

**DATE: 12 JUNE 2020**

**RE: DOUBLE LIFE SENTENCE FOR RAPIST**

This week, the Scottburgh Regional Court sentenced a 40-year-old man to two terms of life imprisonment for the rape of a mentally challenged man.

The accused and the 25-year-old victim lived in the same area of Sawoti, on the Kwa-Zulu Natal South coast. In the first instance, the accused raped the victim on their way back from a traditional ceremony at a nearby homestead. The victim returned home and reported the incident to his granny. A case was opened and the accused was arrested.

However, the case was provisionally withdrawn pending the outcome of DNA results, as the victim was unable to give evidence in court due to his mental state.

During this time, the accused again encountered the victim and took him to his home. The victim's aunt got concerned when he did not return home and went out looking for him. Neighbours told her that they had seen the victim at the accused's house. She gathered together community members and went to the accused's home. The aunt peeked through the window and saw the two men naked on the bed. She shouted for her nephew to come out, but the accused kept him in and threw stones at the community members. The community members eventually broke down the door to the house and rescued the victim.

Following a medical examination, a second case of rape was opened against the accused and he was arrested.

In court, the accused denied both allegations. Regional Court Prosecutor, Active Njakazi led DNA evidence as well as the testimonies of the doctor and the victim's aunt. The accused was found guilty and sentenced.

Kwa-Zulu Natal Director of Public Prosecutions, advocate Elaine Zungu said, "Well done to those involved in successfully bringing this accused to book. He took advantage of the mental state of the victim. We view matters of this nature in a serious light."

**Natasha Kara**

**Regional Spokesperson: DPP KZN**

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