

Media Statement



Tel: +27 12 845 6000

Email:
media@npa.gov.za

Victoria & Griffiths
Mxenge Building
123 Westlake Avenue
Weavind Park
Silverton
Pretoria

www.npa.gov.za

TO: ALL MEDIA

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RE: DRUG DEALER SENTENCED TO FIVE YEARS DIRECT IMPRISONMENT

Last week, the Regional Court sitting in Modimolle sentenced a Nigerian National, Ezy Ezeagbali to five years imprisonment following his conviction on a count of dealing in drugs.

The accused was spotted driving at a high speed along the N1 north by two police officers who were on patrol along the N1 near Bela-Bela. The police stopped him and requested to search the vehicle where Meth cathinone (commonly known as CAT) was confiscated stashed in a bag behind the driver's seat. The estimated street value of drugs that was discovered was R887 000.

During trial, when it became clear that the state had a watertight case, the accused pleaded guilty to the charge. In his plea, he told the court that his company, Don Don Trading at that time was undergoing financial difficulties and he was struggling to pay rent and to support his family. He said received a call from one Paul who invited him to Johannesburg who then handed him a bag containing drugs to transport to Mokopane where a buyer would be waiting. He saw this as an opportunity to make quick money, he said.

In aggravation of sentence, Advocate Nkhetheni Munyai, submitted to the court that the guilty plea was not indicative of remorse but it was tendered in the light of the strength of the state's case. Advocate Munyai argued that due to the seriousness of the offence, its prevalence and the devastating effect of drugs in our communities the accused must be removed from society.

The court was persuaded and sentenced the accused to five years imprisonment.

The NPA welcomes the sentence.

Kind Regards,

Mashudu Malabi-Dzanghi
Regional Communication Manager
DPP Limpopo