## **Media Statement**



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TO: ALL MEDIA

**DATE:** 14 MARCH 2017

RE: DUO SENTENCED TO 3 LIFE SENTENCES

On 9 March 2017, the North Gauteng Division of the High Court sentenced Eric Nkosiphedule Tomose and Zamelele Maramco to three life sentences in respect of 3 counts of rape. They were further sentenced to 15 years imprisonment for robbery with aggravating circumstances, 4 years for house breaking with intention to rape, rob and kidnap, and 5 years for kidnapping.

In the early hours of 27 December 2015, the complainant heard footsteps in the house. She asked who it was and the person kicked the door of the room in which she was sleeping. Immediately when she opened the front door trying to escape, she was accosted by accused 1 and 2 and another male person, who were armed with knobkerries and had covered their faces with balaclava.

They assaulted her with knobkerries, kicked and dragged her without shoes, to an open veld near shaft 2 mine in Carletonville. She was forced to lie down facing upwards and the three took turns raping her whilst competing as to who was the best.

Acting on a tip off, the police managed to arrest the accused and the stolen properties were recovered from them. They were also linked through the DNA from the scarf that was used to wipe the complainant. Accused 1 raised an alibi that the victim was a sexual worker but failed to prove the allegation through a robust cross examination by State Prosecutor Adv Robert Molokoane. Acting Judge Strydom described the accused as pathetic liars who were not remorseful throughout the trial. They were sentenced as above and declared unfit to possess a firearm.

The DPP in North Gauteng, Advocate Sibongile Mzinyathi welcomes the sentence and commends Advocate Molokoane and the investigating officer for ensuring that justice is served.

Kind Regards,

Luvuyo Mfaku NPA Spokesperson

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