

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: FATHER GETS TWO LIFE IMPRISONMENT TERMS

The Burgersfort Regional Court in Limpopo sentenced a father (43) to two life imprisonment terms following his conviction on two counts of rape involving his daughter. His name was concealed in order to protect the identity of the complainant.

The court heard that on 07 April 2013, the accused went to fetch the complainant from a relative who was staying with her so that she could attend school at Burgersfort.

The first rape incident happened on 27 May 2013 during the night whilst the 15-year-old was asleep in their one room shack.

The second incident occurred on 10 September 2013, when the father aggressively instructed the daughter to prepare the bed before he proceeded to rape her.

He was then arrested the following day after the complainant went to report the matter to her neighbour. During the trial, the accused denied the allegations against him. His defence was ultimately rejected by the court and he was found guilty as charged.

In aggravation of sentence, the State Prosecutor, Tshikotshi Lennox presented the Victim Impact Report, explaining how the incident affected them. He further stated that the accused betrayed the trust that his daughter had in him. Tshikotshi pleaded with the court to impose a life sentence on each count.

The court agreed with prosecutions and remarked that it was more aggravating that children are raped by persons that they trust. The court found that there were no substantial and compelling circumstances to justify the imposition of a lesser sentence. The court ordered that his name be entered into the National Register for Sexual Offenders.

The NPA welcomes the sentence.

Kind Regards,

Mashudu Malabi-Dzanghi
Regional Communications Manager
DPP Limpopo