

Media Statement



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TO: ALL MEDIA

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RE: NPA EMPLOYEES COMMITTED TO DELIVERING JUSTICE TO VICTIMS OF CRIME

The Palmridge Court yesterday delivered one of the heaviest sentences in the history of the Criminal Justice System to Albert Justice Morake (35). Morake was handed down a 1535 years jail term for 144 counts ranging from attempted murder, rape, kidnapping, theft, armed robbery and possession of firearm. In total, the accused raped 29 women, kidnapped and robbed 25 men.

The accused, who sometimes acted in concert with an accomplice, targeted couples walking in the street or sitting in their vehicles in the streets during the night. He would point them with a firearm and then demand that the man climb into the back of the car where he would tie their hands and feet. The complainants were either forced to walk into a nearby veld or the accused would drive their vehicle to a veld. There, they would be robbed of cash, jewellery, cellphones and any other valuables. The women would then be taken to a different spot not far from where their partners were captives and be raped.

In arguing for a just and proper sentence, Adv Nerissa Muller pleaded with the court to impose a sentence that aims to prevent, deter, rehabilitate and that is retributive. The court was reminded that rape kills the victim's self-respect, destroys feelings of physical, mental integrity and security. These monstrous deeds often haunts the victims and subjects them to mental torment for the rest of their lives – a fate often worse than loss of life, the court heard. Society has been calling for heavy sentences against perpetrators of violent crimes who show no respect for the rule of law and that was a crucial point of departure during arguing for sentence by the state.

The NPA prides itself in employees who strive to deliver justice to the victims of heinous crimes and are diligent in the execution of their duties to fulfil the obligation the organisation has in promoting a fearless and crime-free society. The NPA welcomes the sentence.

Kind Regards,

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