

Media Statement



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TO: ALL MEDIA

DATE: 05 JUNE 2017

RE: FIELDS HILL TRUCK OWNER PLEADS GUILTY

The Director of Public Prosecution in KwaZulu Natal, Advocate Moipone Noko has today entered into a plea and sentence agreement in terms of Section 105A of the Criminal Procedure Act 51 of 1977 with the legal representative of Gregory Govender, the business owner that owned the truck and hired the driver, Sanele May, which were involved in the Field's Hill crash of September 2013.

In terms of this agreement, the accused pleaded guilty to: Contravention of the National Road Traffic Act regarding the roadworthiness of the truck and the trailer that was involved in the crash; Contravention of the Act in terms of the duties of an operator where the operator of a motor vehicle is expected to conduct his operations with due care to public safety and Contravention of the Immigration Act relating to the employment of the driver of the truck (Sanele May) who was illegally in the country.

The charges against accused 1 (the CC, Sagekal Logistics) were withdrawn as the company is currently subject to liquidation proceedings and is insolvent.

For counts 1 and 2 (taken as one for the purpose of sentencing), the accused was sentenced to a fine of R10 000 or twelve months imprisonment. He was further sentenced to a fine of R10 000 or twelve months imprisonment for count 3 and a fine of R5 000 or six months imprisonment for count 4.

This matter was prosecuted by Senior State Advocate Alistair Walters.

Welcoming the sentence Advocate Noko said, "I hope it serves as a warning to transport operators to ensure that their vehicles are roadworthy. Truck accidents contribute significantly to the carnage on our roads."

Kind Regards,

Natasha Kara

Regional Spokesperson: DPP KZN

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