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TO: ALL MEDIA

DATE: 28 NOVEMBER 2019

RE: FRAUDSTER SENTENCED TO SEVEN YEARS DIRECT IMPRISONMENT

The Bellville Commercial Crimes Court sentenced Shaun Ada to 10 years direct imprisonment following a protracted trial that was caused by the accused, who changed his legal representatives several times.

The court convicted Ada on three counts of fraud involving R 595 701, 95 perpetrated against ABSA Bank for the application of asset finance products. Ada applied for vehicle finance to purchase a Nissan Navarra and a Ford Figo, as well as a credit card facility, using falsified documents.

On 27 June 2018, the accused pleaded not guilty on all counts levelled against him. The state led several state witnesses in the trial to prove its case against the accused. He brought an application to be acquitted of all the charges against him.

The state successfully opposed the application. The accused then decided to testify in his own defence.

Advocate Denzyl Combrink led a strong cross-examination of the accused. After numerous delays due to him changing his legal representatives, he decided to tender formal admissions to the elements of the three counts of fraud.

The state accepted these admissions and he was accordingly convicted. The court took the three counts together for the purposes of sentence, and sentenced him to 10 years imprisonment, of which three years was suspended with conditions for 4 years. He was also declared unfit to possess a firearm.

The NPA welcomes the sentence as it sends a clear and strong message that these offences will be met with the severe sentences.

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