

# Media Statement



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**TO: ALL MEDIA**

**DATE: 12 NOVEMBER 2018**

**RE: HUSBAND AND WIFE DUO SENTENCED TO LIFE FOR MURDER**

The married couple, Sifiso Nkosi (a South African Police officer) and Phumla Matseke were each sentenced to a term of life imprisonment in the Durban High Court last week for the kidnapping and murder of Nalin Naidu in 2014. The third perpetrator, Gonasagren Naidu (the deceased's husband) committed suicide while awaiting trial.

Naidu wanted his wife killed and enlisted the assistance of his co-perpetrators, agreeing to pay them a sum of money in return. The co-perpetrators then sought the help of three more people, namely Gcina Magwaza, Zwelakhe Maphumulo and Maria Sithole.

On October 29, the team set their plan in motion and Naidu, Magwaza and Maphumulo kidnapped the deceased from the Bellair area and drove her to the Shongweni quarry where Nkosi, Magwaza and Maphumulo slit her throat and left her for dead.

Naidu then paid them their money, which they spent on clothing, food and alcohol. They were arrested shortly after. Magwaza, Maphumulo and Sithole opted to plead guilty and testified in the state's case against the other accused.

In court, Senior State Advocate Denardo Macdonald used their evidence to link the accused and demonstrate their role in the death of the deceased. Advocate Macdonald led a significant amount of cell phone evidence, further implicating them in the crime.

Each accused was sentenced to 15 years imprisonment for kidnapping and life imprisonment for murder.

The Director of Public Prosecutions in KwaZulu Natal, Advocate Moipone Noko welcomes the sentence and conviction in this matter. She said, "I hope this sentence will deter

would-be offenders and put the spotlight on violence between spouses. Congratulations to all NPA employees who dealt with the matter.”

Kind Regards,

**Natasha Kara**

**Regional Spokesperson: DPP KZN**

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