

Media Statement



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TO : ALL MEDIA

DATE : 12 JUNE 2010

**RE : THREE MEN SENTENCED FOR ROBBERY OF
FOREIGN JOURNALISTS**

Bright Madzudzu, a Zimbabwean national, Obunna Ndzubuisi Nigerian national and George Magubane also from Zimbabwe, were convicted and sentenced in Protea Regional Court in Soweto last night after being arrested in connection with robbery of foreign journalists in Magaliesburg.

Two of the accused were convicted of robbery with aggravating circumstances and sentenced to 15 years imprisonment each, and the third one was convicted of receiving stolen property and was sentenced to four (4) years imprisonment.

The offence was committed during the night of 9 June 2010 where three journalists from Portugal and Spain were asleep at their room at Nut Bush Boma Lodge in Hekpoort in Magaliesburg. The accused broke into their room armed with a firearm and knife which they used to forcefully take away their property. The items stolen include cameras, laptops, clothes, a passport and cash in Euros and US dollars. The police have recovered some of the items from the accused and the estimated value of the stolen property is R388 000.

The accused appeared in one of the 56 dedicated courts officially announced on 3 June 2010 by Minister Jeff Radebe, when he shared information on the state of our readiness to deal with all criminal cases relating to the FIFA 2010 World Cup soccer tournament. This brings the tally of the cases enrolled in the dedicated courts to eight (8) so far, and the second to be finalised summarily.

The arrest and court case finalisation follow swift action by the police who wasted no time in tracking them down and thoroughly investigated the case that led to securing the successful conviction. I would like to thank the prosecutors for ensuring that we were able to put together a formidable case before court. The NPA will continue to intensify the efforts of ensuring efficient administration of justice to all in a bid to ensure a successful soccer tournament.

Issued by:

Adv Menzi Simelane
National Director of Public Prosecutions

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