

# Media Statement



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**TO: ALL MEDIA**

**DATE: 08 MARCH 2017**

**RE: KILLER OF GRANDMOM GETS LIFE**

On 08 March 2017, the Limpopo High Court sentenced Gilbert Mphahlele of Ga-Mphahlele to four life imprisonment terms after he was convicted for the murder of Mathibela Phagadi.

The incident happened on 03 April 2016. The accused left his place of work in Pretoria during the night under the false pretence saying that his child has burned. Upon his arrival he went to a tavern where he met the neighbour of the deceased. The accused asked the neighbour who was a state witness if he can accompany him to the deceased's place so that he can visit his girlfriend. Later, he changed his mind and he left alone. The accused found the deceased alone and he stabbed her several times with a sharp object and he took her cell phone

The accused read the text messages from the deceased's cell phone and called the new boyfriend and started to threaten him by quoting the message. The accused was later arrested in Carletonville, Gauteng.

During the trial, the accused pleaded not guilty and testified that he was in Pretoria. However, State Advocate, Eric Mabapa led the evidence of the two witnesses.

The court rejected his version and convicted him. Having found that there were no substantial and compelling circumstances; the court sentenced the accused to life imprisonment.

The NPA welcomes the sentenced.

Kind Regards,

**Mashudu Malabi- Dzhangi**  
**Regional Spokesperson: DPP Limpopo**

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