

# Media Statement



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**TO: ALL MEDIA**

**DATE: 02 OCTOBER 2019**

**RE: LIFE IMPRISONMENT FOR MURDER OF INMATE**

The Mankweng Regional Court sentenced Comfort Moela, Sonto Motsoto, Patrick Motau Mogomane, Philemon Rakobela and Raymond Zhou to life imprisonment for the murder committed in Seshego holding cells in June 2017.

The deceased was arrested for a domestic violence related incident when he was attacked by the accused. They assaulted him with fists and kicked him with booted feet until he lost consciousness. He died later at the hospital from the injuries sustained during the assault.

In court, all accused pleaded not guilty and the Regional Court Prosecutor, Matibidi Malatji led the evidence of three inmates and the pathologist who testified about the injuries sustained by the deceased. The court rejected their version and found them guilty of murder.

In aggravation of sentence, Malatji argued that the deceased lost his life in a gruesome manner and therefore the minimum prescribed sentence must be imposed. The court agreed with the state and sentenced all accused to life imprisonment.

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