

# Media Statement



Tel: +27 12 845 6000

Email:  
[media@npa.gov.za](mailto:media@npa.gov.za)

Victoria & Griffiths  
Mxenge Building  
123 Westlake Avenue  
Weavind Park  
Silverton  
Pretoria

[www.npa.gov.za](http://www.npa.gov.za)

**TO: ALL MEDIA**

**DATE: 06 APRIL 2017**

**RE: LIFE SENTENCE FOR KILLING GIRLFRIEND AND DAUGHTER**

Last week, the Mthatha High Court, sitting in Sterkspruit, sentenced Nqabile Ngqoza (29) to an effective life imprisonment for killing his girlfriend and her daughter almost ten years ago. Ngqoza was convicted and sentenced to life imprisonment for each of the two counts of murder, six years on the count of pointing of a firearm, eight years for unlawful possession of a firearm and six years for unlawful possession of ammunition. The court ordered the sentences to run concurrently with the life sentence on the first count of murder and he was further declared unfit to possess a firearm.

According to evidence presented in court, Ngqoza, of Voyizana Village in the district of Sterkspruit, was in a relationship with the deceased, Fezeka Gunukelwa, and they had a child together. Gunukelwa, also had a one year-old daughter, whose father was not Ngqoza. He wanted to marry the deceased but the deceased was also in a romantic relationship with another man, Sizwe Hinana, who resided in the same village as Ngqoza and the deceased.

On 06 October 2007, Hinana, fetched Gunukelwa and her daughter from their home with the intention of taking them to his home. Whilst on the way to his home he decided to go into a tavern, whilst the girlfriend and the daughter waited outside. When he went out of the tavern, they were no longer there and he went to look for them at Ngqoza's place and found them with him. It is then that Ngqoza, who was twenty years of age at the time, pointed a firearm at him and he ran away.

Ngqoza told his girlfriend that her daughter, who was not his, must be killed for them to get married but the girlfriend refused. Ngqoza then stabbed the infant with a screwdriver in the neck and proceeded to stab the mother with the same screwdriver before shooting her in the head. The killer threw the body of the toddler in the toilet pit

and buried the mother's body in a shallow grave at his home. Neighbours were alerted to the deaths by a stench coming from the toilet pit and upon investigations discovered the body of the baby. Police were called and further investigations led to the shallow grave where the already decomposed body of the mother was found.

During the trial, Ngqoza pleaded not guilty, but, Advocate Mduduzi Mzila, for the state, led evidence from witnesses and presented forensic evidence that led to his conviction on all counts.

The NPA welcomes the sentence with the hope that it proves that criminals will be prosecuted and sentenced even when the crimes were committed a long time ago.

The NPA welcomes the sentence.

Kind Regards,

**Luxolo Tyali**

**Regional Spokesperson: DPP Mthatha**

**Enquiries: [ltvali@npa.gov.za](mailto:ltvali@npa.gov.za)**

**047 502 2630**