

Media Statement



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TO: ALL MEDIA

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RE: LIFE AND 10 YEARS FOR RAPE AND KIDNAPPING

A 42 year-old man was sentenced to life and 10 years imprisonment in the Ngwelezane Regional Court last week after being convicted for the rape and kidnapping he committed in 2010.

The accused was known to the complainant and on the night of the offence he had asked her to accompany him to a nearby tuckshop. The accused then told her he needed to see his employee about a matter and drove to Richards Bay. Thereafter, the accused drove towards Esikhawini even though the complainant told him that she wanted to go home. The complainant continuously pleaded with him and eventually he said that he would take her home along a gravel road. The complainant did not know this way home. At some point the accused stopped his car and raped the woman. He raped her on four diverse occasions, over a few hours and eventually drove her home.

The accused threatened to kill her if she disclosed the incident to anyone. The complainant did alert her friend who then called the police.

During the trial, Regional Court Prosecutor, Ronita Kisten led the evidence of the complainant and her friend; as well as medical evidence. A victim impact statement compiled by the complainant and facilitated by Court Preparation Officer, Mandisa Sikakane was handed in to the court in aggravation of sentence. In the statement, the complainant wrote how the incident has left her with so much of trauma and anger. She said that she also struggles to maintain a romantic relationship.

The state asked the court to consider the secondary victimisation suffered by the complainant as she had to wait almost five years to finish her evidence. The reason being is that at the start of trial, the accused had absconded before the complainant could be cross-examined. A warrant for his arrest was issued and on his arrest, the trial

continued. The accused then changed attorneys twice, thus subjecting the complainant to cross-examination by two different attorneys.

The accused was sentenced to 10 years imprisonment for kidnapping and life imprisonment for rape.

The Director of Public Prosecutions in KZN, Advocate Moipone Noko said, "I am pleased with the sentence. I hope it sends out the necessary message to sexual predators that they will not get away with these offences."

Kind Regards,

Natasha Kara

Regional Spokesperson: DPP KZN

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