

Media Statement



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TO: ALL MEDIA

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RE: LIFE AND 21 YEARS FOR EX-GIRLFRIEND'S MURDER

The Durban High Court sentenced Mondli Makhathini last week to life and 21 years imprisonment for the murder of his ex-girlfriend.

Prior to the incident, Makhathini was in relationship with Thulile Khumalo who is now deceased. Their relationship ended bitterly in January last year. Then in September, he saw her motor vehicle in the Malukazi area and decided to kill her, thus arming himself with a firearm.

He set her car alight, and lured her from inside the house she was living in. When she ran outside, he grabbed her and shot her dead. The subsequent post mortem report noted the cause of death as 'gunshot wound to the head and face, left arm and left breast.'

In court, Senior State Advocate, Denardo Macdonald led the evidence of eyewitnesses. In aggravation of sentence, Advocate MacDonald led the testimony of Khumalo's mother. She told the court that her daughter was a hard-working and successful woman who provided financial support to their family. She had just started to prosper, having bought her first car when Makhathini took her life.

The court sentenced him to life imprisonment for murder, 15 years for unlawful possession of a firearm, 1 year for unlawful possession of ammunition and 5 years for malicious damage to property.

In welcoming the sentence, the Director of Public Prosecutions in Kwa-Zulu Natal, Advocate Elaine Zungu said, "This sentence should serve as a reminder to like-minded individuals that the justice system is serious about our fight against crime. Intimate

partner murders are common in our country and we will try our best to ensure that perpetrators face the full might of the law.”

Natasha Kara

Regional Spokesperson: DPP KZN

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