

Media Statement



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TO : ALL MEDIA

DATE : 31 JANUARY 2018

RE : MAN SENTENCED FOR ASSAULT GBH AND RAPE

On Monday, 29 January 2018, the Nelspruit Regional Court sentenced Richard Tsipi (30) from Ka Bokweni, Back Door Trust to 25 years imprisonment for assault with grievous bodily harm and rape of a 12 year -old girl.

In Count 1, the court papers revealed that, on the 10 October 2015, an argument ensued between the accused and the victim, Tsipi then tied her with electronic cords to the bed, assaulted her numerous times with open hands and fists, kicked him with a slasher all over her body whilst tied to the bed. The victim eventually managed to escape and was taken to hospital.

In Count 2, on 12 November 2010, the accused took the victim who is a family member and resided with him and raped her more than once. Fortunately, the victim managed to run away from him and report the incident to nearby neighbours who assisted and took her to her family and the incident was report to the police.

The accused was arrested in November 2010, but, absconded and a warrant for his arrest was issued .He was subsequently re- arrested in November 2015 and his bail was opposed. The two dockets were joined together.

Regional Court Prosecutor, Thulani Msibi, led evidence of a victims , eyewitnesses and medical reports .The state further argued that a minimum sentence to be imposed.

The accused was sentenced to 5 years imprisonment in respect of count 1 and 20 years for count 2. His name was entered into the Sexual Offences Register and was previously declared unfit to possess a firearm.

The NPA welcomes this sentence with the hope that victims will find solace and restore confidence in the criminal justice system.

Kind Regards,

Monica Nyuswa
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