## **Media Statement**



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TO: ALL MEDIA

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## MAN GETS 25 YEARS FOR MURDER OF A YOUNG GIRL

Simosakhe Ngcobo (28) was sentenced to 25 years imprisonment in the Durban High Court yesterday after he pleaded guilty to murdering a 7 year-old girl.

In his plea, the accused stated that he was at home on 4 March 2015 when he was visited by his friend, Sizwe. While there, Sizwe received a call from a man named Thokozani who said he wanted a job done and was willing to pay lots of money. The accused went with Sizwe to meet Thokozani, who told them he wanted someone killed and would pay R20 000 for the job. Both men agreed to do the job.

Thokozani took them to the Phambela (Kwa Dukuza) area where he pointed out a house and told them his daughter lived there and he wanted her killed. The two men went to the house on the pretence of needing directions and saw three children in there. They left and reported this to Thokozani. He said they should have killed all three children.

They then went back to the house and asked for 'Thokozani' s daughter' and the child was identified. They took her outside, locking the others in the house, and Sizwe stabbed her several times as her father had instructed that they make sure that she is dead.

The men then fled the scene. Thokozani gave them R100 to return to Inanda and he paid them R1000 each two days later. The accused was arrested in early May.

In aggravation of sentence senior state advocate Noxolo Dube stated that the only reason the accused had pleaded guilty was because of the overwhelming evidence against him. He had been positively identified in an identity parade. She also pointed out that he was a callous man in that he stood watching while Sizwe killed the girl even though he (accused) has a two year old child of his own.

Thokozani Ngidi was indicted in the Nsuze Periodic Court yesterday and will appear in the Durban High Court on 29 July 2015.

The National Prosecuting Authority is pleased with this sentence and commends all those involved in the speedy finalisation of this matter.

Kind Regards,

<u>Issued by</u>: Velekhaya Mgobhozi NPA Spokesperson 079 393 4073 VBmgobhozi@npa.gov.za