

Media Statement



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TO: ALL MEDIA

DATE: 09 MAY 2017

RE: MURDERER SENTENCED TO SIX YEARS

The Limpopo High Court sitting in Thohoyandou sentenced Livhuwani Maxwell Mushaphi (30) last week to six years imprisonment with a four-year suspension for a period of three years for killing his friend. Mushaphi was charged with an offence of murder and pleaded guilty on the charge of culpable homicide. The court convicted him with culpable homicide.

According to the plea statement of the accused, the deceased and the accused were amongst the people who were celebrating New Year's eve on 31 December 2015 at Phiphidi village in the district of Thohoyandou. In his version, both were drinking beer and without any provocation the deceased started to assault him with fist and a bottle of beer. He was then forced to defend himself. He however exceeded the bounds of self-defence and ended up killing the deceased by hitting him with a bottle.

He then told his other friend to call the police and he was arrested on the scene.

During aggravation of sentence, the State Prosecutor, Advocate Suzan Mahada asked the court to remember that the accused had previous convictions such as assault GBH, compelled sexual assault and robbery. He said justice must be seen to prevail for the family of the deceased.

The NPA welcomes the sentence and the DPP, Advocate Ivy Thenga hopes this sentence will send the message that crime does not pay.

Kind Regards,

Mashudu Malabi

Regional Spokesperson: DPP Limpopo

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