

Media Statement



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TO: ALL MEDIA

DATE: 23 NOVEMBER 2017

RE: NPA SECURES ANOTHER HEAVY SENTENCE FOR A SERIAL RAPIST

On Friday 10 November 2017, the Gauteng Division of the High Court in Pretoria sentenced Charles Mthethwa to 5 life imprisonment terms and a total of 239 years ordered to run concurrently with the life sentence.

During the period between 2013 and 2015, the accused walked around the streets and bushes of Marikana, Olifantsfontein, Ivory Park and Erasmia looking for possible victims. He threatened his victims with a knife and dragged them into bushy areas where he strangled, robbed them of their personal belongings and raped them. The accused was linked to these offences through DNA.

In one incident, the accused acted with an accomplice who is unknown to the state and in another incident the accused killed his victim by strangling her and left her body in the bushes where it was later discovered.

The accused was facing 24 counts, namely; 8 counts of kidnapping, 10 counts of rape, 5 counts of robbery with aggravating circumstances and murder. The accused realised that the state's case against him was overwhelming and pleaded guilty.

The state submitted Victim Impact Statements, which detailed the effects of these offences on the lives of the victims and their families. In aggravation of sentence, Advocate Bakedi Maoke argued that the prescribed minimum sentence be imposed in spite of the fact that the accused pleaded guilty. She further argued that the accused pleaded guilty because he faced a watertight case and not because he was remorseful.

The NPA welcomes the sentence.

Kind Regards,

Justice in our society, so that people can live in freedom and security

Luvuyo Mfaku
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