## **Media Statement**



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TO:

RE:

DATE: 05 MAY 2017

## NEIGHBOUR GETS 15 YEARS IMPRISONMENT FOR RAPE

On 04 May 2017, the Lenyenye Regional Court sentenced a man to 15 years imprisonment after being convicted for the rape of a nine year old girl. The accused is a neighbour to the minor victim.

The incident happened at Lenyenye area in September 2014. The accused, entered the victim's house while the mother was at work and raped the girl.

The mother found the child in ther room after the rape. The minor told her mother that the accused had raped her. The accused was apprehended at his homestead.

The accused pleaded not guilty and the court found him guilty as charged.

Regional Court Prosecutor, Sizwe Ndlovu, led the evidence of the victim who testified through an intermediary, the evidence of the victim's mother and the forensic nurse who examined the victim. The DNA results positively linked the accused to the rape.

In aggravation of sentence, Ndlovu presented the victim impact report facilitated by the social worker.

Having found that there were substantial and compelling circumstances to deviate from life imprisonment as the accused was in custody since his arrest in 2014 and due to his youthfulness, the court sentenced the accused to 15 years imprisonment.

The NPA welcomes the sentenced.

Kind Regards,

Mashudu Malabi-Dzhangi Regional Spokesperson: DPP-Limpopo Enquiries: <u>mmalabi@npa.gov.za</u>