

Media Statement



Tel: +27 12 845 6000

Email:
media@npa.gov.za

Victoria & Griffiths
Mxenge Building
123 Westlake Avenue
Weavind Park
Silverton
Pretoria

www.npa.gov.za

TO: ALL MEDIA

DATE: 04 MARCH 2019

RE: PERLEMOEN POACHERS SENTENCED TO HEAVY SENTENCES FOR THEIR CRIMES

The Port Elizabeth High Court sentenced Julian Brown and his two co-accused to lengthy jail terms on Friday, 1 March 2019. Brown, 32 and his co-accused Eugene Victor, 33, and Brandon Turner, 38 were charged and successfully convicted on charges of racketeering, fraud, forgery and uttering as well as unlawfully engaging in fishing, collecting, disturbing, keeping, controlling, storing, transporting or being in possession of abalone without permit.

The court found that the accused were working together to achieve a common goal of depleting and destroying marine life for their selfish ends. Brown was sentenced to 18 years imprisonment effectively. He was declared unfit to possess a firearm. All sentences on other counts were ordered to run concurrently.

The second accused in this matter, Eugen Victor faced 10 counts, he was sentenced to 15 years imprisonment effectively, and sentences on other counts were ordered to run concurrently. Brandon Turner (accused three) was sentenced to 15 years imprisonment and sentences on other counts were ordered to run concurrently. He was declared unfit to possess a firearm.

In mitigation of sentence, Brown's sister, Nicola Hattingh (35), asked the Presiding Judge on this matter for leniency claiming that her brother was a caring and gentle person who supported many friends and family members.

In aggravation of sentence, Advocate Martin Le Roux of Organized Crime Unit, highlighted to the court what the maximum prescribed sentences were for the charges the men were convicted of. Judge Mandela Makaula presided on the matter. Brown's legal representative, Advocate Terry Price, asked judge Makaula to consider the fact that

Brown was never caught with perlemoen on him and that putting him in jail would not make him a better person than what he is currently.

The Head of the Organized Crime Unit, Advocate Selvan Gounden congratulated Advocate Martin Le Roux and his team on a job well done.

The NPA is satisfied with the sentence.

Kind Regards,

Tsepo Ndwalaza
NPA Regional Spokesperson
Tel: 012 842 1418
Cell: 071 680 3701