

Media Statement



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TO: ALL MEDIA

DATE: 15 June 2018

RE: RAPIST DUO GETS SIX LIFE TERMS & 120 YEARS

On Thursday, 14 June 2018, the Gauteng Division of the High Court in Pretoria sentenced Obed Pilusa (accused 1) and Sipho Mampa (accused 2) to 6 life imprisonment terms each and a total of 120 years. The court further ordered that the white Mazda belonging to accused 1 be forfeited to the state.

During the period between March and May 2016, the accused drove around Brits late at night in the Mazda belonging to accused 1, targeting women who were hiking and offered them a lift to their respective destinations. The accused would then change routes on the way, threaten the victims with firearm and drive with them to secluded places or bushy areas. The accused would then rob them of their personal belongings and rape them.

The complainants were able to point out the vehicle that the accused drove when they committed these offences. The duo was arrested after one of the complainants memorized the registration number of accused 1's vehicle and gave it to the police officers.

In general, the modus operandi of the accused was as follows: Accused 1, the owner of a white Mazda vehicle would be the driver whilst accused 2 would sit in the back. The front passenger door had no handle and could not open from inside. They would pretend giving a person a lift with the intention to rob and/or rape. The victim would usually sit in the front passenger seat where the door cannot open. After driving, they would threaten the victim with a handgun or similar object and thereafter proceed to rob and rape them in a secluded area where they would be left stranded.

The state represented by Advocate Bakedi Maoke, relied on similar fact evidence, identity parades and the accused's DNA which was found in the private parts of some of the victims to build a formidable case against the accused and secured a conviction.

Judge Bam said that the crimes were premeditated and planned and that the appropriate sentence is the one that removes the accused permanently from the society.

Acting Director of Public Prosecutions in North Gauteng, Advocate George Baloyi was satisfied with the sentence stating that it is proportionate to the gravity of the offences committed and applauded the sterling work of the prosecutor and investigating team.

Kind Regards,

Hurbetin Phindi Louw

Regional Manager: DPP South Gauteng

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