

# Media Statement



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**TO: ALL MEDIA**

**DATE: 15 MARCH 2019**

**RE: RAPIST SENTENCED TO LIFE IMPRISONMENT**

This week, the Emalahleni Regional Court sentenced Lucky Msibi (31) of Kriel to life imprisonment after he was convicted of raping and kidnapping a 10 year-old girl in 2017.

According to evidence presented in court, in August 2017, a group of children were busy cleaning a local church and the victim went behind the premises to drink water from the tap. She then vanished and no one could find her until she came back the following day and informed her family that Msibi grabbed her and took her to a nearby shack, raped her, and kept her against her will. The ordeal was then reported to the police and Msibi was arrested.

During trial, Msibi pleaded not guilty to the offence and the Regional Court Prosecutor, Maureen Nkosi led evidence of the victim who stated to court that she could point out the accused. Nkosi led testimonies of a victim's mother who told the court about the pain of having her child raped and kidnapped. Evidence of a forensic nurse was also presented as well as the victim impact statement. The accused was found guilty as charged on both charges.

In sentencing the accused, the court found no compelling and substantial circumstances to deviate from the minimum prescribed sentence and Msibi was sentenced to life imprisonment for rape and another 3 years for kidnapping. Msibi was declared unfit to possess a firearm and the court ordered his name to be entered into the Sexual Offences Register.

The NPA condemns violence against women and children in our society.

Kind Regards,

**Monica Nyuswa**

**Regional Spokesperson: DPP: Mpumalanga Satellite Office**

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