## **Media Statement**



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TO: ALL MEDIA

**DATE:** 07 JULY 2017

RE: RAPIST SENTENCED TO LIFE IMPRISONMENT

A 45 year- old man, was sentenced in Morebeng Regional Court to life imprisonment following his conviction on a count of rape of a minor. The incident happened on 12 December 2016 at Mamaila village.

During the plea proceedings, the court heard that the accused raped a nine year- old girl. The victim was playing with her friends when the accused approached her and took her into the kitchen where he raped her. The step-daughter of the accused informed her mother that her father was busy raping the victim then the mother confronted the accused and the police were called.

He pleaded guilty and was found guilty as charged.

In aggravation of sentence, State Prosecutor, Moshatane Matome presented a victim impact report which clearly outlined the physical and psychological impact of the victim.

The state relied on the well-known case of **S v Matyityi 2011 (1) SACR 40 (SCA)** to argue that a plea of guilty and remorse did not constitute compelling and substantial circumstances for the court to deviate from the prescribed sentence. The court agreed with the submission by the prosecutor.

The accused was accordingly sentenced to life imprisonment.

The NPA welcomes the sentence and DPP - Advocate Ivy Thenga said: " I hope that this will be a lesson to all men who are culprits and commend the good work done by Prosecutor Moshatane".

Kind Regards,

Mashudu Malabi-Dzhangi

**Regional Spokesperson: DPP-Limpopo** 

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