

# Media Statement



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**TO: ALL MEDIA**

**DATE: 30 APRIL 2019**

**RE: RAPIST SENTENCED TO 12 YEARS**

A 49 year-old man from Moemaneng Township in Marquard, Free State was today sentenced to an effective 12 years imprisonment after he was found guilty of rape and housebreaking with intent to rob and robbery by the Thaba Nchu Regional Court. Magistrate Magda Jacobs sentenced Letuka Johannes Mojake for offences that he committed on 10 June 2012.

According to evidence presented in court, Mojake broke into the house of the complainant, who was six month pregnant at the time, and raped her. He also robbed her of items such a hair cutter, two hair clippers, DVD player, television set, wrist watch, handbag and hair products. The total amount of the items the complainant was robbed of is about R20 000. The complainant was using these items to operate her business of a hair salon.

In court, the accused denied that he is responsible for the crimes even after he was identified by the complainant and the DNA results came back positive, linking him to the rape of the complainant.

In aggravation of sentence, State Prosecutor, Tshidi Sebolai, presented a victim impact statement facilitated by Court Preparation Officer, Tshepang Moeti, in which the complainant stated that the incident had traumatised her and affected her financially because the accused robbed her of items she needed to run her business. She had to move in with her relatives in another town because she could no longer afford to pay rent as the business that was sustaining her was no longer operational.

Sebolai described the accused, who was already serving a sentence of 22 years for robbery and attempted murder on another case, as a person who has no respect for the law because his previous convictions could not discourage him from breaking the law.

She further described Mojake as someone who has no respect for another human being because he raped the complainant being aware that she is heavily pregnant.

“The accused broke into the house of the complainant at night, which is a sign that the offences were premeditated. He robbed a six months pregnant woman, who was already traumatised by a presence of a stranger in her house at night. As if robbing her was not enough, he raped her,” said Sebolai.

Sebolai informed the court that the offences that the accused is convicted of are prevalent in the area and this is a clear indication that the court must take the offences seriously.

In sentencing the accused, Magistrate Jacobs stated that the accused must not only be sentenced appropriately, but the court must send a message that these kinds of offences will not be tolerated. She subsequently sentenced Mojake to 10 years for rape and five years for housebreaking with an intent to rob. Three years of the sentence for housebreaking with intent to rob will run concurrently with the 10 years sentence for rape, making Mojake’s sentence an effective 12 years imprisonment.

Kind Regards,

**Phaladi Shuping**

**Regional Spokesperson: DPP Free State**

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