

Media Statement



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TO: ALL MEDIA

DATE: 16 SEPTEMBER 2019

RE: RHINO POACHER SENTENCED TO DIRECT 15 YEARS IMPRISONMENT

The Ganyesa Regional Court on Friday, 13 September 2019, sentenced David Kgotlayakgosi to 52 years imprisonment after he was found guilty on five counts (Counts 1 and 2, Contravention of section 57 (1) of the National Environmental Management: Biodiversity Act 10 of 2004 (killing of Rhinos). Count 3 (1 count of contravention of section 24 (1) of the Nature Conservation Ordinance 12 of 1983 (Entering upon land with a firearm where game is likely to be found and 2 counts of Theft Management). The accused will effectively serve 15 years in prison after the judge ordered some of the sentences to run concurrently.

Kgotlayakgosi killed and dehorned two female white rhinos on the Brisbane farm near Bray in North West. The accused had asked his brother who was employed on the Brisbane farm to provide him with information regarding the movement of the rhinos and also promised him money. He took the accused, accompanied by two other males, to the farm and showed them where the rhinos were kept. They then shot and killed two rhinos which they subsequently dehorned.

The accused and the two unknown males transported the horns to Soshanguve where they sold them. The rhinos were valued at about R 500 000.00 and R 600 000.00, respectively.

The DPP North West, Advocate Moipone Noko, welcomes the successful prosecution and the appropriate sentence in this case and is hopeful that it will have a positive impact in addressing crimes against rhinos and other endangered species in this country. She commended the prosecutor, Advocate Douw Jacobs, on the job well done in this matter.

Kind Regards,

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