

Media Statement



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TO: ALL MEDIA

DATE: 02 AUGUST 2017

RE: ROBBERS SENTENCED TO LENGTHY JAIL TERMS

On Monday, 31 July 2017, the Mthatha Regional Court sitting in Tsolo, sentenced Siphelele Ngcukuva (27) and Nkosiphendule Shinta (27) to an effective 30 years imprisonment. The court convicted and sentenced the duo to 15 years for each of two counts of robbery with aggravating circumstances, and ten years on a charge of house breaking with intent to commit a crime. The ten-year sentence was ordered to run concurrently with one of the 15-year sentences.

Evidence presented in court was that on the night of 29 July 2015, Ngcukuva and Shinta of Tshisane village in the district of Tsolo, broke into the home of the elderly Mvuyo Tyelela (70). They gained entry through the window and found him sleeping. They hit him with a hammer and robbed him of his licenced firearm. Two weeks later, the pair waylaid a truck delivering sorghum beer at the neighbouring Cingco Village. Using the stolen firearm, they robbed the truck driver and made off with R4000 in cash.

A relative of one of the robbers saw them in the truck after the robbery and was able to assist the police investigation. They were arrested and the stolen firearm was recovered from them. Stating the prevalence of violent crimes in the Tsolo area as one of the factors to be considered, Regional Court prosecutor Mzwandile Ndamase argued for the court to impose harsh sentences befitting of the serious crimes after the duo were found guilty as charged. Magistrate Den Ngoqo agreed with the state and sentenced the two robbers accordingly.

The NPA welcomes the sentence.

Kind Regards,

Luxolo Tyali

Regional Spokesperson: DPP Mthatha

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