

Media Statement



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TO : ALL MEDIA

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RE : SERIAL RAPIST GETS 13 LIFE SENTENCES AND AN ADDITIONAL 228 YEARS BEHIND BARS

The Port Elizabeth High Court Judge Mandela Makaula convicted and sentenced a serial rapist, Mzikayise Mkavu to 13 life terms in prison and an additional 228 years for his crimes. There was a sigh of relief in court, which was packed with members of the public, the family of the victims, some of the victims and the media who wanted to witness the sentencing of this monster.

Court papers reveal that he was arraigned on two counts of assault; three counts of attempted robbery; seventeen counts of rape; eight counts of assault with intent to do grievous bodily harm; five counts of robbery with aggravating circumstances and one count of attempted murder.

Between 2008 and 2016 the accused stalked the streets of Kwanobuhle at night preying on female victims who he came across. He then stabbed, raped and robbed them of their belongings. He used sharp objects to mutilate the victims, partially blinding them so that they could not identify him. The accused was arrested in April 2016 in connection with a rape matter and his DNA sample was taken. It then positively linked him to all seventeen rapes.

Two of the victims lost eyesight due to stabbing by the accused. During aggravation of sentence nine victims testified and they relayed to the court how their lives were affected by the horror of being raped and maimed by the accused. Not only did they have to endure the trauma of the rape but some of them are reminded and relive the rape everyday when they look in the mirror and see the scar on their faces as a result of being stabbed by the accused during the rape ordeals.

One victim told the court how the community started ridiculing her and calling her the one-eyed girl after she was stabbed in the eye by the accused. Had it not been for DNA

this accused would have continued prowling the streets at night. On 26 October 2017 the accused was convicted of all counts and sentenced to thirteen life sentences and 228 years of imprisonment.

The DPP of Grahamstown, Adv Mahlati (SC) is very impressed with the manner in which Advocate Cerfontein and her team dealt with the case and congratulated them on a job well done. He said, "we hope that this kind of a sentence will send a very strong message that our courts will not tolerate criminals who terrorise our communities. We welcome the sentence".

Kind Regards,

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