

Media Statement



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TO: ALL MEDIA

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RE: SERIAL RAPIST GETS 14 LIFE IMPRISONMENT TERMS

On Friday, 04 October 2019, the Mpumalanga High Court sitting in Delmas sentenced Siphso Alfred Sithole of KwaMhlanga to 14 life imprisonment terms for the string of rapes, kidnappings, assaults and attempted murder he committed from 2012 to 2016.

The court heard that in May 2016, one of the victims was at Rooi's tavern with her friend. Whilst she was outside answering her phone, Sithole stabbed her with a knife on the forehead. He further dragged her to the toilet and forcefully raped her. The victim lodged a complaint. During the police investigations, DNA samples were taken and Sithole was positively linked to many other offences. Four of the victims were repeatedly raped by the accused and were residing in the same area as him.

During trial, Sithole denied the allegations levelled against him, he maintained his innocence. Senior State Advocate, Eric Sihlangu led evidence of the victims who told the court how their rape ordeal affected their lives and evidence of forensic experts. Advocate Sihlangu further submitted victim impact reports and the accused was found guilty as charged.

The Presiding Officer, Judge Thobane convicted Sithole on 14 counts of rape and sentenced him to life imprisonment on each count.

In light of the scourge of these types of crimes against women and children in the country, the Acting Director of Public Prosecutions, Adv. Matric Luphondo welcomes the conviction and sentence in the matter hoping that it will serve as a deterrent to would be offenders.

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