

Media Statement



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TO: ALL MEDIA

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RE: STEPFATHER SENTENCED TO TWO LIFE SENTENCES FOR RAPING STEPDAUGHTERS

This week, the Nelspruit Regional Court sentenced a 50 year-old man to two life sentences after he was convicted of raping his two stepdaughters in Ngodwana. The accused person cannot be named to protect the identity of the victims.

The accused raped the victims between 2013 and 2014 and they were 9 and 10 years during the time of the rapes. He would rape the victims and threaten them not to report the abuse to anyone. The matter was reported to the police after the victims were interviewed and the accused was arrested.

During trial, the accused pleaded not guilty but the state prosecutor, Thulani Msibi led testimonies of the victims who told the court that the accused used to rape them on separate occasions. Msibi further led evidence of a medical doctor who examined the victims which confirmed the version of the victims and the accused was found guilty after the court rejected his version.

In aggravation of sentence, the state asked the court to impose a harsh sentence as the accused was in a position of trust and was supposed to protect the victims. The presiding officer found no reason to deviate from the prescribed minimum sentence and the accused was sentenced to life imprisonment on each count of rape and his name was entered into the Sexual Offences Register.

The NPA welcomes the sentence with the hope that it will serve as a deterrent to those who think of committing similar offences.

Kind Regards,

Monica Nyuswa

Regional Spokesperson: DPP: Mpumalanga Satellite Office

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