

Media Statement



Tel: +27 12 845 6000

Email:
media@npa.gov.za

Victoria & Griffiths
Mxenge Building
123 Westlake Avenue
Weavind Park
Silverton
Pretoria

www.npa.gov.za

TO: ALL MEDIA

DATE: 02 JULY 2021

**RE: TWO MEN IN COURT OVER POSSESSION OF R1.4 M WORTH OF
ILLEGAL ABELONE**

The Port Elizabeth Magistrates' Court granted two men accused of illegal possession of abalone worth R1.4 million, Moses Gqola (33) and Shaakir George (21) bail of R5000 each. Their co-accused, 25-year-old Athenkosi Bidla, 45-year-old Eldrich Aylward, 25-year-old Justin Killian and 30-year-old Justin Jantjies were each granted R5000 bail by the same court on 22 June 2021.

The six have been charged with unlawful possession of abalone and being in possession of prohibited fishing gear. George has also been charged with reckless driving.

On 08 June 2021, the police became suspicious of a VW Caddy travelling at Central in Gqeberha. The police members pursued the vehicle and had to call for back-up from other members in an attempt to stop the vehicle. The vehicle finally stopped and the six accused were arrested. Police further confiscated 1689 units of abalone with a street value of just over R1.4 million. The vehicle and fishing gear were also confiscated.

The case was postponed to 27 July 2021 for further investigation.

Anelisa Ngcakani

NPA Regional spokesperson

Eastern Cape Division

angcakani@npa.gov.za

083 593 0833