

# Media Statement



Tel: +27 12 845 6000

Email:  
[media@npa.gov.za](mailto:media@npa.gov.za)

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

[www.npa.gov.za](http://www.npa.gov.za)

**TO: ALL MEDIA**

**DATE: 21 JANUARY 2020**

**RE: THREE EFFECTIVE LIFE TERMS IMPRISONMENT FOR RAPE AND ROBBERY**

A 27-year-old Sibusiso Phillip Gumede was last Friday sentenced to an effective three life terms imprisonment by the Esikhawini Regional Court, in Kwazulu-Natal. He was convicted on four counts of rape and three counts of robbery with aggravating circumstances.

The accused raped and robbed three victims at different times. On 22 February 2018, the victim, a 19-year-old boy then, was walking from his home to catch a bus at a bus stop for a school trip. While waiting for the bus, the accused approached the 19-year-old and forcefully walked him to the nearby forest, raped and assaulted him.

In another incident, a 42-year-old woman coming from a tavern at Esikhawini, met the accused who asked her for drugs. The accused then pulled out a knife and threatened to stab the woman, assaulted and then raped her. He then fled the scene with the victim's cellular phone. The accused struck again in July 2019 when he accosted a 25-year-old walking from Esikhawini Mall to the sugar cane fields to meet with her boyfriend. While waiting for her boyfriend, the accused suddenly emerged and demanded to have sexual intercourse with the woman. Upon her refusal, the accused pulled out a knife, held the victim hostage for almost seven hours and raped her six times.

The accused denied everything in court and did not show remorse even though there was overwhelming evidence against him. The state had to lead the evidence of almost 20 witnesses including the DNA expert witness. All victims were traumatised and suffered emotional stress and physical permanent injuries.

The Director of Public Prosecutions in Kwa-Zulu Natal, Advocate Elaine Zungu said, "We are very pleased with the conviction and sentence of the accused. I hope that this

Justice in our society, so that people can live in freedom and security

sentence goes a long way in addressing the scourge of rape and sexual violence which is rife in our country and in sending a message that the state views crimes of this nature in a serious light.”

**Kholiswa Mdluli**

**NPA Media Relations**

**Email: [media@npa.gov.za](mailto:media@npa.gov.za)**