

Media Statement



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TO: ALL MEDIA

DATE: 01 APRIL 2019

RE: TWO NYANGA POLICE OFFICERS SENTENCED FOR CORRUPTION

The Bellville Specialised Commercial Crimes Court sentenced two Nyanga police officers to three years direct imprisonment after convicting them on a charge of corruption. The two officers, Mzoxolo Toto and Khululekani Mdlunya were sentenced to 3 years direct imprisonment and a further 3 years imprisonment suspended for 5 years after attempting to extort money from a young man and his friends.

Events leading to last Friday's successful prosecution and sentencing started in the early hours of 1 June 2013, when the two accused stopped a young man and his friends while they were driving in Section 2 of the Old Crossroad. The two officers told the driver, Sisa Yanta, that he was drunk and they would take him to a place in Athlone for his blood to be drawn. Yanta pleaded with them telling them that he has to work the next morning. The accused told him that they should talk.

Yanta suggested a visit to the closest ATM machine to withdraw money. The accused told Yanta that they would follow him. He headed home instead of the ATM. He told his friends in the car that the police were expecting payment and one of the friends, Aphelele Paraffin, gave him R50. When they arrived at his home, Yanta took the R50 and went to the police to pay them.

He gave the money to Mdlunya who was the driver of the police vehicle. Toto laughed telling Yanta that he was insulting them. Yanta promised the police officers that he would get another R150 from his father who was inside the house. Yanta went inside and informed his father, Sydney, of what was happening. Sydney is a police officer. He went outside to enquire from the accused why they wanted money from his son. The accused told him that his son knows why.

When Sydney started poking further, the two accused became suspicious and came out of the car looking for Yanta. They called for backup and seven police vehicles arrived. Sydney and his other son, Zuko were arrested. Sydney and Zuko were released from custody the following day.

Advocate Xolile Jonas said the two accused wanted Sisa Yanta to pay them so that he is not arrested for driving a motor vehicle under the influence of liquor and/ or let the law take its course. He added that the two were convicted of Section 4(1) (a) of the Prevention and Combating of Corrupt Activities Act (public officer accepting gratification).

The NPA welcomes this sentence as it will hopefully serve as a deterrent against the scourge of corruption, which has affected even some police officers who are entrusted with applying the law as expected.

Kind Regards,

Eric Ntabazalila

Regional Spokesperson: DPP Western Cape

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