

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: 13 SEPTEMBER 2018

RE: YOUTHS SENTENCED FOR MUGGING COPS OF THEIR GUNS

On Tuesday, 11 September 2018, the Mqanduli Regional Court sentenced Aviwe Siswana and Inganathi Jika (both 24) to serve an effective twenty years and fifteen years imprisonment, respectively, for robbing a police officer and taking his service pistol three years ago.

Siswana was sentenced to 15 years for robbery with aggravating circumstances, three years for illegal possession of a firearm and three years for illegal possession of ammunition. The latter sentences were ordered to run concurrently with the 15-year term. The court sentenced Siswana to an additional ten years for possession of a semi-automatic firearm, five years of which was suspended.

Jika, on the other hand, was sentenced to undergo 15 years imprisonment for robbery with aggravating circumstances and three years for illegal possession of a firearm. The court ordered the three-year sentence to run concurrently with the 15-year term.

According to evidence presented in court, an off-duty police officer was involved in a motor vehicle accident on the night of 20 June 2015 near the town of Mqanduli. While the injured cop was trying to walk the police station to report the accident, he was accosted by Siswana and Jika. They pointed him with a firearm, which was never recovered, robbed him of his service pistol and fled. The pistol was only recovered a year later at the home of Siswana's girlfriend, who became the state witness in accordance with Section 204 of the Criminal Procedure Act.

Jika will only start serving his 15-year sentence in the latest case after completing another 15-year sentence for another robbery of a police firearm. On 26 July 2018, he was convicted and sentenced by the Mthatha Regional Court, along with Likhona Poncana (25), for mugging another police officer in Mqanduli on 15 July 2015. The victim in that robbery, was residing in the same block of flats with Jika. He was in his police uniform, about to enter his flat after knocking off from work when Jika and

Poncana ambushed him. He tried to fight them off but they stabbed him, leaving him with a paralysed index finger, and they made off with his service pistol. That firearm was also recovered a year later at Jika's girlfriend's home and she also became the state's Section 204 witness.

The trial finalised in July was transferred from Mqanduli Regional Court to Mthatha Regional Court so that it be heard by a different magistrate.

Senior State Advocate Mbulelo Nyendwana finalised both cases.

The NPA welcomes the sentences.

Kind Regards,

Luxolo Tyali

Regional Spokesperson: DPP Mthatha

Enquiries: ltvali@npa.gov.za

047 502 2630