



**Sterling
performance
recognised**

**Facebook
murderer
convicted**

**Full might
of the
law for
paramedics
rapists**

**53rd
and 54th
TCCs
launched**



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LETTER FROM THE MANAGING EDITOR

In order for one to know where they are going, it is important to know where they come from. Khasho took a few steps back to track the footprints left by some resilient women of this organisation who have been around since Maizeboard days. This was done under the auspices of Women's Month in an effort to pay tribute to the women of the NPA. Khasho profiled a few of them and we are delighted to share their experiences and thoughts with you in this edition.

As you all know, we use Khasho to strengthen our internal communication for effective organisational information flow, with the aim to reach a wider NPA readership. Publishing NPA performance and other important organisational information in Khasho is therefore a strategy that is employed to keep you in the loop. Articles about court cases are a common feature in all our editions so that we can share with you experiences of our hard working prosecutors and to brag a little about their work – Khasho always positioned itself as a repository for good work.

In this edition we highlight outcomes of some of our key cases including the infamous facebook murder case that shook the whole country, a case of paramedics who were raped while on duty and the case that rattled the Rustenburg community where a whistle-blower was killed. Khasho brings you details on how the state secured convictions in all of them.

We also bring you a very humbling article of a prosecutor in the Willowvale Regional Court who finalised 11 cases in eight days. This is an extra-ordinary article that you cannot miss. It really talks to the service excellence that is often a cliché in the public service environment. Please read this article and learn about how dire the situation is in some of our regional offices. What makes this story extraordinary is how the situation was turned around to achieve excellence. The NPA is entirely proud to be associated with excellent performance.



Bulelwa Makeke
Executive Manager: Communications

The NPA Annual Report 2011/2012 was last month tabled in Parliament. A follow up presentation before the Justice Portfolio Committee will take place on 16 - 17 October. For those that want to know about the organisation's performance, the annual report has been uploaded on the intranet and on the website, for easy access.

Our events page is brimming with articles that showcase the NPA's involvement in educating the public about its role in the criminal justice system with the aim to positively affect public perception about the fight against crime. These articles are shared with you so that you can know more about your organisation and its public engagements.

The dawn of the technological era has not left the NPA behind, so in keeping with the rest of the Government landscape, the NPA also created a Facebook account to which NPA engagements with communities are posted. You can follow the NPA's outreach events on facebook. We encourage everybody to visit this page. Ideas and inputs to make the NPA's facebook page a vibrant page can be forwarded to: jdejager@npa.gov.za.

Bulelwa Makeke is the Executive Manager: Communications



The organisation is faced with a very challenging situation in terms of its finances. It has come to my knowledge that there have been further cuts to the baseline allocations for the next three financial years. This unfortunate situation calls for all of us to be resource efficient and strive to do more with less.

In keeping with the Public Service Month that we just came out of, I am calling on all of us to be guided by the Batho Pele principles as we discharge services to our clients. A key part of the Batho Pele is a relentless search for increased efficiency and reduction of wastage within the public service which we should all comply to. This is a challenge that I would want to leave all of you with.

We operate in a turbulent environment that calls for cool headedness as we discharge our prosecutorial duties. The Constitutional mandate derived from Section 179 (4) of the Constitution requires that the prosecuting authority must exercise its functions without fear, favour or prejudice. This empowers all of us to be resolute and firm as we deliver on our Constitutional promise.

Whilst on this matter, let me remind you of Outcome 3 of the JCPS Delivery Agreement that seeks to ensure that all people are and feel safe. This tallies up with the National Development Plan that was presented by the Minister in the Presidency, Minister Trevor Manuel, in a joint sitting of Parliament on 15 August.

The Plan outlines a coherent and holistic approach to confronting poverty and inequality in the country based on six priorities one of which resonates with us in the prosecuting authority. It reads as follows;

Building safer communities

By 2030, people living in South Africa should feel safe and have no fear of crime. Women, children and vulnerable groups should feel protected. They should have confidence in the criminal justice system to effectively apprehend and prosecute criminals who violate individual and community safety.

Achieving this vision requires everybody's participation in strengthening the criminal justice system. Therefore, I call upon all of you to excel in your line functions with the aim that your individual contribution manifests in a public service excellence that is felt by the communities that we serve.

This brings me to an unprecedented occurrence that we should not embrace. The 2nd Quarter performance for the NPS saw a steady decline and this is a worrying trend given that Q2 is generally known to be a performing quarter. This is a trend that we should nip in the bud and not let it occur again. We made it clear in Parliament when we presented the NPA Strategic Plan 2012-2017 that our focus was on improving performance. We therefore cannot afford to renege on this grand strategy. As a matter of urgency, we have tasked the Enterprise Performance Review Committee to schedule performance review sessions with all Business Units and my expectation is that each division would deeply reflect on the challenges they faced and how they propose to improve in those underperforming areas.

Nomgcobo Jiba is the Acting National Director of Public Prosecutions



Acting NDPP, Adv Nomgcobo Jiba

HARSH PUNISHMENT FOR MOSS PHAKOE KILLERS

Frank Lesenyego

The North West High Court sitting in Rustenburg sentenced the former Mayor of the Rustenburg local municipality, Matthew Wolmaraans to 20 years imprisonment whilst his former bodyguard, Enoch Matshaba, received a life sentence from Judge Ronald Hendricks for the murder of former councillor and whistle blower, the late Moss Phakoe.

Moss Phakoe was a councillor at Rustenburg local municipality. He was also a member of the African National Congress and South African Communist Party. He was very critical of the alleged corruption within the municipality. One of the people he levelled corruption allegations against was Matthew Wolmaraans, the then Mayor of the Rustenburg local municipality. Phakoe was very vociferous in his criticism of Wolmaraans regarding these allegations of corruption which included Rustenburg Kloof Hotel and Olympia Park Stadium tenders. Moss Phakoe and other members who were vocal wrote numerous letters of complaints to the top hierarchy of the ANC regarding corruption within the municipality.

These allegations of corruption resulted in a series of meetings with leaders like President Jacob Zuma, Deputy President



Senior Deputy Director of Public Prosecutions: Adv Hosea Rapula Molefe and
Snr State Advocate: Adv Moipone Moroka

Kgalema Motlanthe, Secretary-General of the ANC Gwede Mantashe, North West Premier Thandi Modise and other ANC top structures. The task team was established to investigate the allegations and the findings of the task team are yet to be revealed.

On 12 March 2009, a meeting was held in Rustenburg and attended by the late Minister of Cooperative Governance and Traditional Leadership, Sicelo Sicheka, the late Moss Phakoe, Matthew Wolmaraans and others. At this meeting,

Moss Phakoe repeated his allegations of corruption within the municipality involving Matthew Wolmaraans. In the meeting, he handed a dossier containing allegations of corruption within the municipality to the late Sicelo Sicheka. Before handing that he said, "this may result in my death".

On 14 March 2009, two days after handing over the dossier, he was shot dead on the drive way of his house in Rustenburg. His assassination created a lot of instability and finger pointing around Rustenburg.

A Police Task Team was appointed to investigate the assassination but to no avail. There were rumours circulating that members of the investigating team were on the payroll of the assassins and that was why there was no breakthrough. A third task team was then established which sought advice and guidance from the provincial office of the NPA and ultimately made a breakthrough. Enoch Matshaba, former member of Mkhonto weSizwe and former bodyguard to Matthew Wolmaraans, was arrested. Leading to his arrest, he was identified by a witness as an assassin at an identification parade.

Enoch Matshaba made pointings out, confessed to his role and to the killing of Moss Phakoe. Subsequent to his confession, other political heavy weights got arrested including Matthew



Investigating and prosecuting team

Wolmaraans, Amos Mataboge and Oupa Mphomane. The four accused persons were subsequently charged in the North West High Court. At the beginning of the trial however, the state withdrew the case against Amos Mataboge. Judge Ronald Hendricks sentenced Enoch Matshaba to a life term imprisonment whilst Matthew Wolmaraans got 20 years of direct imprisonment.

The prosecution team was led by Adv Hosea Rapula Molefe, Snr Deputy Director of Public Prosecutions, who was assisted by Adv Moipone Moroka, Snr State Advocate. The North High Court also refused leave of appeal.

COMMENTARY BY SENIOR DDPP ADV HOSEA RAPULA MOLEFE AND SENIOR STATE ADV MOIPONE MOROKA.

We feel very relieved and happy now that the case has been finalised. The case was complex, time-consuming and entailed a lot of consultation of witnesses and research. At one stage we were called to the office of Adv Menzi Simelane after he received allegations of bribery against Adv Molefe in this matter. This nearly demoralised the prosecution team as the

allegations were baseless. The support of Adv Johan Smit SC and colleagues gave us strength to continue with the matter. The case entailed a lot of legal issues and the experience of Adv Molefe, coupled with cooperation from the investigating team, determined the conviction of this case. We are happy that this case has put the NPA in the spotlight in a positive manner. It has received wide media coverage including broadcast on CNN. It has gone a long way in showing that we prosecute without fear, favour or prejudice.

Frank Lesenyego is the Regional Communications Manager for DPP: North West

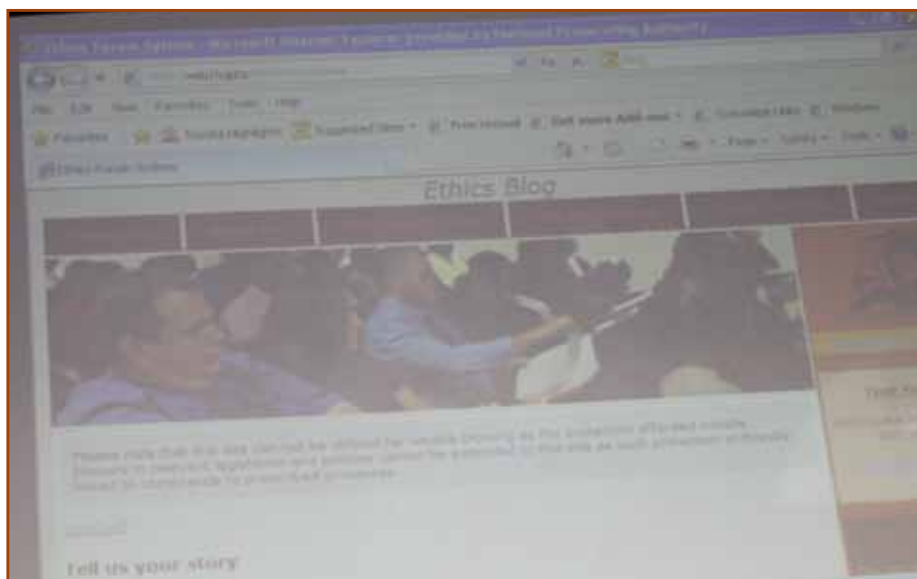
ETHICS BLOG LAUNCHED BY IMU

Sibongile Mogale

The Integrity Management Unit (IMU) launched the NPA's very first Ethics Blog on 20 July 2012. Explaining usage of the blog, Senior Manager Praveen Naidoo said the ethics blog would be used as a platform by officials to engage on integrity issues, ethical dilemmas and any other matter relating to corporate governance or ethics within the NPA. The IMU committed itself to providing a speedy response within a reasonable time to all blogs requiring a response. He said people have the right to remain anonymous if they chose to.

Employees were also encouraged by Wilfred Noble to engage in the dialogue and to send stories, emphasising that any blog's success depends on the dialogue. IMU Acting Executive Manager, Prince Mokotedi, said the essence of implementing any kind of ethics infrastructure in an organisation was through talking - using a safe and secure platform. Reiterating Noble's words, he also encouraged people to come forward with any creative ways that might help to make the dialogue meaningful.

Articulating on the functionality of the blog, Moroko Mabowa said that the ethics blog was a fully functional, well oiled machine that only needed participation and cooperation from employees.



The Ethics Committee tasked with responding to questions, comments and advices posted on the blog was introduced as follows:

- Dr Solomon Hoogenraad Vermaak – Advance Manager: Investigation;
- Mr Praveen Naidoo – Snr Manager: Advocacy and Ethics Management;
- Ms Moroko Mabowa – Advanced Manager: Advocacy;
- Ms Cynthia Mogola – Assistant Manager: Advocacy; and

- Mr Hercules Wasserman – Acting Snr Manager: Internal Investigations.

In closing, Naidoo said he was proud to announce that the NPA and the South African Revenue Service (SARS) are the only public institutions that have integrity units in their organisations.

People were urged not to restrict discussions on ethics within the NPA confines. Sharing with families, communities and colleagues outside the NPA was encouraged.

VOX POPS

Khasho decided to acknowledge the work of women in the employ of the NPA. Some of the women that Khasho spoke to are those that journeyed with this organisation from its Maizeboard days. Khasho also tracked down a few other women that have showed some resilience throughout the years, soldiering on up to this day. Here is what they had to say when the Khasho spotlight shone on them:



Jennet Gentles - PA To Chief Prosecutor (DPP Free State)

What is your role and how long have you been doing it?

I'm the PA to the Chief Prosecutor: Bloemfontein Cluster. We are the biggest of the three Clusters in the Free State, and I deal with the Chief Prosecutor and an establishment of plus minus 90 prosecutors, relief prosecutors and aspirant prosecutors on a daily basis.

I have been in this position from April 2006 up to now and I am still enjoying it. This position brings new challenges on a daily basis making it interesting.

What does women's month mean to you?

Women's day commemorates the national march of women to petition against legislation that required African persons to carry the "pass" which curtailed an African's freedom of movement during the apartheid era. Therefore this day means freedom of movement for all South Africans. It reminds the world that women played a part in the liberation of this country. To me, this day should be celebrated daily, but as it is a 'specially invented day' why not spoil the strong woman of SA who have helped and are helping to build the country? Women's month is a tribute to the achievements of women everywhere.

What is the NPA's attitude towards women employees?

The NPA's attitude towards women employees is impressive because we have women holding senior positions in this organisation. It shows that gender is not an issue when it comes to filling of positions. At present the acting NDPP and acting CEO are women. Even at the provincial level we have women holding DPP positions in the Free State, Northern Cape and KwaZulu Natal. The NPA also ensures that women employees have basic knowledge about gender issues and violence and provides legal information through various awareness campaigns. The organisation makes positive provision of opportunities for women, as we can see the increasing recruitment of female employees. We are also proud of our own female DPP in the Free State, Adv. Khanyile.



Kefilwe Ramatsekana - Secretary (Research & Policy)

I joined the NPA on 04 September 2002 at Maizeboard and worked in several offices as an Admin Assistant and Secretary. I worked at the CEO & CFO's offices, Executive Manager: Security and Risk and now in the Research & Policy Unit.

Do you think the NPA is doing enough in terms of empowering its women employees?

Not really. For one to undergo training, it takes a long time and therefore not everyone gets to go on training except for lucky individuals.

In your opinion, what is it that the NPA can do to rectify this?

Upgrade Personal Assistants to another level to create career growth.



Thibane Modjadji – Administration Assistant (NDPP)

I was employed by the NPA as a tea lady in the office of the former NDPP Bulelani Ngcuka. In 2005 I worked with the then NDPP Adv Vusi Pikoli as a tea lady and occasionally as a messenger. I did computer studies and Adv Pikoli noticed my determination and galvanised for my promotion to an admin/messenger position in July 2007. I have been in this position ever since but now doing admin work only.

Do you think the NPA is doing enough in terms of empowering its women employees?

Yes it does. Look at me now from being a tea lady to where I am. I didn't have any experience when I got this post but I have learnt a lot through my journey and thanks to the NPA, I am where I am today.



Tsakane Golele - Senior Manager (AFU)

I started working for the NPA in 2001 at Maizeboard as a Finance Officer (salaries). I got promotion and became Senior Finance Officer. I then got secondment to the Serurubele Project and later moved to supply chain still as a Senior Finance Officer. In 2008 I got a transfer promotion at CARU which moved to DoJ in 2009. In 2012 I moved back to VGM at AFU after I was promoted to a Senior Manager post.

In your opinion, what do you think is the attitude of the NPA towards its women employees?

We as the NPA still have a long way to go in terms of taking women seriously. Not much has been done in terms of promoting women employees, especially black women. Check the Employment Equity Policy and then see black women that hold higher positions in the NPA. There is still a wide gap compared to women of other races. There is no balance between black and white women holding higher positions.



Adv Trish Matzke - NPS

I started working in 1986 in Germiston then went through the district and regional courts. I also worked as an SPP for a while then went to the high court in Johannesburg first at the Fraud Unit which was based in the DPP office where I prosecuted for a couple of years.

In 1999 I joined the DPP: Pretoria and later moved to Maizeboard – an opportunity I got when they were looking for someone to do representations. I then moved to the VGM building when the organisation moved offices. I must say that I have made good friends in the NPA throughout the years some of whom I've become dependent on. Sylvia is one such person that I depend on especially on representations and I will miss her dearly when she goes on retirement at the end of this year.

What do you think is the attitude of the NPA towards its women employees?

I personally think that women are cared for in the NPA especially now that we have the Acting NDPP who is a woman. Women are respected in the NPA for the work they do. In my personal opinion I think the NPA is well run. Look at the acting NDPP Adv Jiba, Adv Majokweni, Adv Mokhatla and acting CEO Adv Van Rensburg; we are almost a 'women's organisation'. I have never experienced any discrimination working under a woman like I experienced while working under male leadership.

What does this month mean to you?

It is a special month, especially women's day. It is nice to be recognised as a woman, in our families as well. When there is a day dedicated to someone, even those people who really don't recognise a special day, they will recognise it. Women are the backbone of society. My child says I am a career woman, but I am also a mother.

Women were created to be strong; they can hold the position of being a career woman, a mother and a wife simultaneously. Can men do the same? Just wondering!



Lusanda Ntwanambi – PA (SOCA)

I started with the NPA in October 2002 on contract with the Inventory Team. Within a month I was moved to the SOCA unit to assist Adv Thoko Majokweni as a Personal Assistant. I also worked for Labour Relations in 2005 as a Secretary to Senior Manager, Ronnie Pather before moving to SOCA again where I got a permanent appointment in Adv Majokweni's office.

How does it feel to have an organisation that is headed by a woman?

Sis Thoko as we call her is a great lady boss to work for. She is more of a mother than a boss. Working with her is really comforting.

Do you think the NPA is doing enough to empower its women employees?

In my opinion, it depends on who you are working with. In my situation, career wise I have grown a lot. Sis Thoko has opened a lot of closed doors for me. Working with her developed my networking skills. I can now network with people at different levels. She has given me that platform.

She once allowed me to chair a big function that was held at the Sheraton hotel. The event was about abused and vulnerable young girls. The SOCA unit, on behalf of the NPA, plays a big role in empowering these vulnerable girls.



Sylvia Fischer – Personal Assistant (NPS)

I started with the NPA in 1991 at the DPP: Pretoria office as a switchboard operator also doing clerical work and administration. I also worked with dockets. In 1998 I moved to Maizeboard as a Personal Assistant to Adv Matzke. I have been working with Adv Matzke ever since.

What does the women's day/month mean to you?

To me it is like a family day.

In terms of career growth, do you think the NPA is doing enough to empower its women employees?

Yes, I think it does. Since I started working here, I have been empowered a lot.

For instance I was recognised and promoted by Adv Mpshe while he was still the head of NPS.



Adv Moipone Noko - Acting DPP, KZN

What is your role and how long have you been in it?

I am the Acting DPP for KZN as from 16 July 2012.

What does women's month mean to you?

Women's day/month means that the limelight gets to focus on us as women more during this time than it does ordinarily.

In your opinion, what is NPA's attitude towards women employees?

The NPA's attitude towards its women employees is very positive as the NPA recognises women and respects them too, as it does its male employees. In KZN, female NPA employees in the Durban office were treated to lunch by male employees on the 8 August 2012. This demonstrates awareness of women's month by male employees and it shows they recognise how special we women are.

VOX POPS CONTINUED



Adv Kholeka Gcaleka - Senior DDPP, South Gauteng

What do you do and how long have you been doing your work?

I started my career with the NPA as an Aspirant Prosecutor in 2004. In January 2005 I was appointed in the Protea Magistrate Court as a specialist prosecutor in sexual offences and moved to the High Court as a Junior State Advocate in 2006. In 2008 I got a promotion appointment to Senior State Advocate. It is in June 2011 that I was appointed as a DDPP.

What does women's month mean to you?

As a society, women in particular, need to reflect on the gains of women emancipation and empowerment. Women of today need to take stock and learn from those who have gone through the same path in the past. As a woman in the legal field I reflect in the life of "uMama" Victoria Mxenge who was a nurse but had an interest in Human Rights during the times of oppression in our country. She strived to achieve her dreams and studied to become a lawyer, and with the support of her husband "uBaba" Griffiths Mxenge they became human rights lawyers. We need to follow suit in order for us to grow and realise that it is not only about us women alone, but it is also about men in our society; it is through the support of those close to us in our lives that we can achieve maximum women empowerment as it is a societal responsibility. It is important for women in leadership like myself, young as I am, to take the baton from those previously involved in the struggle by empowering ourselves in order to empower the next generation. In this manner the legacy will be preserved.

What is the NPA's attitude towards women employees?

Unfortunately the NPA is not immune to the practices of the rest of the legal fraternity. Women strive to prove themselves and work as hard as their male counterparts to be recognised. However through the legislation of Employment Equity, the NPA is achieving in ensuring that women occupy higher positions. The appointments of our Acting NDPP as well as DNDPP bear testimony to this achievement. We look up to them to maintain their strides and leave a legacy for the rest of us. The NPA still needs to work on coaching and mentoring for women in particular.



Adv Hannelie Bakker - Deputy Director Public Prosecutions, Port Elizabeth Background

I studied at the then University of Port Elizabeth from 1982 to 1986 and obtained B. Juris and LL.B degrees. I started as a prosecutor in Graaff-Reinet on 18 November 1986, two days after my final exam. In 1987 I transferred to Port Elizabeth where I worked in the District Courts and Regional Courts until 1992 when I was appointed as a State Advocate in the newly established DDPP's office in PE. In 1995 I was promoted to Senior State Advocate and in 2000 was appointed as SPP: Head of the Office in PE. I returned to the office of the DDPP: PE in 2003 as a DDPP and Head of the Office. I have now earned my NPA Asset bar-code!

What does women's month mean to you?

During the month of August, the focus is placed on the many aspects of a woman and how these unique qualities contribute to relationships with partners, family, and friends in our private lives and in our workplace. The NPA has always cultured an environment within which a woman can make a full contribution and a difference to the way we operate as Lawyers of the People. I have never experienced that my sex was a factor that inhibited my growth in the NPA. I have always believed that you earn the respect of your seniors, peers and subordinates by the professional way in which you conduct yourself both in and outside the workplace and the quality of your work. I place a very high value on maintaining good interpersonal relationships with my colleagues and partners. On a lighter note my colleagues know that I always have sweets in my bottom drawer!



Matlotlo Mofokeng – Assistant Manager, Human Resources DPP: Northern Cape

I have been in this position for four years and I have enjoyed every minute of it. I think the HR department in the Northern Cape is the busiest because we always fill vacancies as people do not like to stay in this province.

Women's day means that we must maintain and upgrade the courage taken by women of 1956 and nurture the current young women to stand firm against women abuse. The day also means that we should strive for independence and be role players in the economy and enter the male dominated industries. It should remind women that they must continue to be recognised for what they possess beyond raising families and also their contribution to the development of the country.

The NPA strives to promote women in managerial positions as we have a lot of women holding senior positions in the organisation. Even our DPP: Northern Cape is a woman. The organisation has always shown a positive attitude towards women because we have hosted a lot of health and wellness programs with an emphasis on women's health like breast cancer. Even the NPA policy for maternity and family responsibility shows that women are highly regarded by the organisation.

FORMER MK FREEDOM FIGHTERS DUG UP

Frank Lesenyego

Family members of slain uMkhonto weSizwe combatants, Vuyani Goniwe and Cyprian Bheki Hlatshwayo, struggled to hold back tears as the remains of the two were exhumed at the Old Mmabatho Cemetery on 13 July 2012.

Officials from the Mafikeng local municipality, the NPA, the Ekurhuleni Metro and the ANC watched over the proceedings as MK Veterans Association members gave their fallen comrades a final salute.

Madeleine Fullard, Head of the Missing Persons Task Team in the NPA, said the process was very challenging with no records, photos and assistance from the municipality. “We unsuccessfully dug up 12 sites before reaching this one containing the remains of two young males with many injuries”. She further said they would perform DNA analysis on the remains before handing them over to the families for proper burial, a process which may take 2-3 months.

Formal proceedings moved to Mmabatho Civic Centre where the North West Premier, Thandi Modise, thanked both families for sacrificing their own sons in the fight for freedom and democracy. She said we should teach our children and young people how to serve because that is what kept uMkhonto weSizwe together during the struggle. In closing, she said we all have a responsibility to teach the new generation about the history of the struggle and where we come from as a nation.

Personal Background

Vuyani Goniwe (MK Jorissen) was born and brought up in Ntselamanzi Location in Alice in the Eastern Cape. Influenced by black consciousness which was strong at Fort Hare University in Alice, he became politically active while at school. In 1977 he left South Africa together with his friends Bandile Ketelo and Mgcini Mali via Namibia and Botswana, where he joined the ANC and Umkhonto we Sizwe and went for military training in Quibaxe and Funda camp in Angola. He was deployed to Botswana where he joined a reconnaissance unit.

Cyprian Bheki Hlatshwayo (MK Bismark) was born in Soweto, grew up in Mafikeng



Umkhonto weSizwe Exhumation in the Old Mmabatho Cemetery



North West Premier Ms Thandi Modise at the Exhumation

where he was schooled. He worked as a male nurse in Johannesburg before he left South Africa in 1976, joining the ANC and Umkhonto weSizwe. He underwent his basic military training in Angola, as well as a further six months training in the German Democratic Republic (GDR), followed by a survival course in Zambia with ZIPRA (Zimbabwe People's Revolutionary Army) forces. In October 1978 he was deployed to Botswana for infiltration into South Africa.

The operation in which they died

The two formed part of a reconnaissance unit that infiltrated South Africa from Botswana on foot near the Ramatlabama border post. They walked through the night. In the morning of 27 October

1978, once near Mahikeng, they were spotted by a helicopter and confronted by members of the Bophutatswana National Guard. Bismark and Jorissen apparently died in grenade explosions in the skirmish that followed. Their fellow unit member, Tladitsaga Moses “Moss” Molefe (MK Ncosi) was shot in the leg and captured the following day. He was charged in the well-known Pietermaritzburg treason trial and later imprisoned on Robben Island.

The search for their remains

Both the Goniwe and Hlatshwayo families as well as fellow MK members searched for their remains for years. While it was believed that they were buried in Mmabatho, the precise site could not be located as there are no records for the old cemetery.

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FEAT WORTHY OF RECOGNITION

Luxolo Tyali

Finalising eleven cases in eight days, and in the process getting a criminal sentenced to life imprisonment is an accomplishment that seldom occurs in the regional courts of the Mthatha Division. But, in what seems stranger than fiction, a prosecutor in the Willowvale regional court, where something as basic as a computer is not accessible to a prosecutor, achieved the accomplishment with a 91% conviction rate.

In less than two weeks in August, regional court prosecutor Fanelekile Kandile managed to surpass the region's finalisation target by twofold, ensuring convictions in murder, housebreaking, rape and robbery cases.

One case that stands out is the conviction and sentencing of a 29-year-old man for the rape of his 13 year-old niece. He was convicted and subsequently sentenced to life imprisonment for house breaking with intent to rape and another charge of rape committed in Willowvale, 2010.

For his achievement, Kandile was given a gift as a token of appreciation by the Mthatha Division DPP, Adv Barry Madolo and Butterworth Cluster Regional Court Senior Public Prosecutor, Frans Dlamini. "We had to recognise excellent performance by a prosecutor working under trying conditions in the Transkei, where multiple challenges that are unique to the region hinder performance. I hope this will also motivate other prosecutors



Regional prosecutor Fanelekile Kandile (left) receives a gift in recognition of his sterling performance from regional SPP Frans Dlamini

in the region to work harder and smarter so as to achieve brighter things," said Dlamini.

Speaking to Khasho, Kandile attributed his success to prioritisation of cases, building a strong relationship with Legal Aid practitioners and making all other stakeholders understand the targets of the prosecution. "Cooperation with Investigating Officers, consulting with witnesses well in advance before cases, even over weekends and by telephone, was one of the key contributors to our

success. Making sure that the Legal Aid practitioner, who handles about 98% of cases in our region, and the presiding magistrate work towards the same target as me has been the best strategy," stated Kandile, adding that he does not even have a computer in his office.

"I have never had a computer since moving to the Willowvale station in 2010. I rely on other prosecutors from other courts for case laws and research. I am sure we can achieve more with better resources," concluded Kandile.

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The Missing Persons Task Team in the NPA conducted extensive investigations and excavations at the cemetery. After opening twelve sites, a grave containing two young males with multiple traumatic injuries buried in a single coffin was located. Forensic examination and DNA tests will be conducted to confirm their identities and cause of death.

Sarafina Hlatshwayo-Funani, sister to Bheki Hlatshwayo, said it has been a 34 years of pain and agony not knowing the whereabouts of her brother. "Having a proper burial for the remains lessens the suffering and closes the long and winding chapter," she said.



Exhumation salute

PARAMEDICS RAPISTS TO ROT IN JAIL

Phindi Louw

Two men accused of raping two paramedics stationed at the Roodepoort Fire Station during March 2010 were both sentenced to eight life sentences plus 35 years imprisonment each, on 19 July 2012.

The two female paramedics responded to an emergency call from Durban Deep where a toddler had been severely burnt by water. Whilst preparing the toddler, three armed men appeared from nearby bushes. They forced them into the bush where they gang raped and robbed them of their belongings. Another passerby was also held at gunpoint and forced to rape the paramedics.

This horrific crime towards people who have selflessly dedicated their lives to saving other people's lives shocked the whole country.

The President of the country took some time off his busy schedule to visit the victims and their families to offer support. He pleaded with the nation to work together with the police in ensuring that the perpetrators were brought to book.

A fight between accused two and one of his friends (Michael Maphopha) in an awaiting trial section of Johannesburg Correctional facility, popularly known as Suncity led to a break in this case. The two were awaiting trial detainees for another crime at the time. They had an argument over a sim card and the issue of the paramedics rape case surfaced during the fight. One offender alerted prison authorities and Maphopha was then called to give evidence on the case. Upon receiving these news, prison authorities informed the police.

Adv Phumeza Futshane did a sterling

job in leading evidence that linked both accused to the crime. Accused number three was still on the run and could not be located.

Passing the sentence Judge Weiner said: "The psychological trauma and loss of dignity suffered by the victims

"THE PSYCHOLOGICAL TRAUMA AND LOSS OF DIGNITY SUFFERED BY THE VICTIMS LEFT DEEP WOUNDS AND I HOPE THE VICTIMS AT SOME STAGE WILL BE ABLE TO MOVE ON. YOU SHOWED NO REMORSE AND DID NOT TAKE RESPONSIBILITY FOR WHAT YOU HAVE DONE. YOUR CRIME INSTILLED FEAR IN THE FRATERNITY OF EMERGENCY SERVICES AND WE CANNOT CONTINUE LEAVING IN FEAR AS A NATION."
JUDGE WEINER

left deep wounds and I hope the victims at some stage will be able to move on. You showed no remorse and did not take responsibility for what you have done. Your crime instilled fear in the fraternity of emergency services and we cannot continue leaving in fear as a nation".

The victims were overjoyed despite the violation of their dignity in such a cruel manner and they vowed to continue saving lives.

Khasho spoke with Senior State Advocate Pumeza Futshane on her success and this is what she had say.

To what would you attribute your success?

Hardwork, determination, focus and putting others first before myself.

What was the worst moment during the trial?

When the case was moved from Judge Van Oosten to Judge Weiner after the defence felt that Judge Van Oosten was biased towards the state. The victims had to retell their agony to the new judge all over again. It drained them, they were crying and it pained me to see them going through it all over again.

What kept you strong?

As a woman, I knew it was worth all the pain to ensure safety for many



Senior Adv Pumeza Futshane

other women who might have felt prey to these youngsters. I knew I wanted justice to prevail. The support from the family members of the victims motivated me to work harder in cracking every nut.

How did you feel after the conviction?

Honestly, I had mixed feelings. I knew the nation was waiting for justice to prevail. I didn't want to let my victims down nor the entire country, especially my employer. I was excited that this ordeal was finally over but sad to part ways with the victims and their families. But hopefully we will be working together soon as the families of the convicted youngsters came running with information on the whereabouts of the third accused who has been on the run.

Any word of encouragement to other advocates?

Our work is a calling. Dedicate yourself and be passionate in what you do. Become strong for yourself first so that you can be strong for all those that depend on you. Remember, thorough preparation for any case is the main key.

Phindi Louw is the Regional Communications Manager for DPP: South Gauteng

LIFE SENTENCE FOR RAPING 80 YR OLD

Phaladi Shuping

A 38 year-old man who repeatedly raped his 80 year-old neighbour was sentenced to life imprisonment by the Viljoenskroon regional court on 28 August 2012.

Magistrate Johan Visagie sentenced Mongezi Kleinboo Motshesane for raping his neighbour repeatedly on the night of 6 April 2012, Good Friday, until the early hours of the following morning.

Motshesane was phoned by his niece from Klerksdorp to come to the Doreen Farm outside Viljoenskroon to make some school arrangements for his children. He arrived in the morning of the incident, quite drunk. He met his niece where the school arrangements were discussed and later that afternoon he went to his house which was next door to the victim's.

Just before sunset he saw the victim sitting in front of her house alone. He approached her, forced her into the house and raped her repeatedly. The ordeal continued throughout the night. Motshesane left the granny's house just before sunrise the following day.

The old lady could not walk and had to sit in the room until a woman who takes care of her arrived in the afternoon. She informed her caretaker of what had happened and later reported the matter to the police. The accused was arrested the same day.

He fortunately left his hat in the bedroom of the victim; his niece identified it as the one that was worn by his uncle the previous day.

Arguing in aggravation of sentence State Prosecutor, Jerry Noge said the accused did not show any remorse and society must be protected from people like him.

"The only way that the court can protect our communities from people like the accused is to send him to prison for a very long time," he said.

In sentencing, Visagie said Motshesane was clearly a danger to the society and did not have respect for the elderly and took advantage of the fact that it was Easter holidays and quiet at the farm as most



State Prosecutor Jerry Noge

people had visited their families.

The DNA results of the accused came back inconclusive as there was no male DNA found on the victim. However, Magistrate Visagie sentenced the accused to life imprisonment based on the rest of the evidence that was presented in court.

COMMENTARY OF STATE PROSECUTOR JERRY NOGE

This was not an ordinary rape case. It was a case where an elderly woman was sexually violated by a man young enough to be her grandson.

The elderly found the court proceeding

too traumatic as she had to relive the memory of that fateful day.

Her caretaker and the investigating officer had to convince her to continue with the case. They told her it was the only way society would rid itself of people like him.

The incident changed the life of the victim as she became withdrawn after the incident. She did not associate with many people and this shows how the incident affected her.

I was relieved when the magistrate sentenced the accused to life imprisonment as I was convinced he deserved a harsh sentence.

He did not show any remorse and was inconsiderate to the fact that an elderly woman would not live a normal life again due to his evil deed.

Phaladi Shuping is the Regional Communications Manager for DPP: Northern Cape

WELL DESERVED SENTENCE - FACEBOOK MURDERER

Eric Ntabazalila

On 16 August 2012, Thabo Bester was sentenced to life imprisonment for the murder of Nomfundo Tyhulu and 25 years for robbery with aggravating circumstances at the Western Cape High Court. Two days later, Acting Judge Judith Cloete, who had earlier sentenced him to life imprisonment, refused him application for leave to appeal his sentence. Bester was already serving 50 years when he was sentenced by Acting Judge Judith Cloete.

Bester pleaded guilty to the murder of Tyhulu and to robbery with aggravating circumstances. He submitted a statement to the court where he outlined the sequence of events leading to Tyhulu's murder. The 23 year old father of three, whose three week rape and killing spree shocked the country, pleaded guilty and his legal representative argued for a lesser sentence. The legal representative told the court that Tyhulu's murder was not the most serious the court had seen. He further argued that his client was young and did not deserve life imprisonment.

In mitigation of sentence Bester told the court: "I am fully responsible for what I have done. I did not fully understand what I was doing in Cape Town. I have known Nomfundo for four years and I have known her family. I can't believe that I am responsible for killing her. She believed in me. She supported me when I was accused of rapes in Durban. She came down to support me. She was a friend. I am sorry for what happened".

Advocate Samantha Raphels disputed Bester's pleas, telling the court that the accused did not take the court into his confidence.

Delivering judgment, Acting Judge Cloete said: "The fact of the matter is that, in your own version, this was nothing other than a sequence of brutal and callous acts which deprived this young woman of her life. It also deprived her loved ones of her presence in their lives. In these circumstances, the community at large will rightly expect this court's sentence to reflect the seriousness with which crimes of this nature are regarded. No lesser sentence would be appropriate



Advocate Samantha Raphels

in the circumstances of this case."

Tyhulu and Bester met in January 2011 in Johannesburg while Tyhulu was working at Sandton BMW where she sold the accused a BMW 1 Series at the dealership. He lied to her saying he was working on a television production and she looked like a girl who could appear on the production.

By March 2011 the two were in love and communicated daily via phone and sms. In early September 2011, Tyhulu phoned Bester to tell him she had changed her job and would start the new job on 28 September 2011.

Bester booked Tyhulu a flight to Durban on 18 September 2011 and the next day they decided to fly to Cape Town where Tyhulu would appear at the photo shoot.

They checked into the One and Only Hotel and two days later they moved out and checked into the Ocean Breeze Villas in Sunset Beach, Cape Town.

" THE FACT OF THE MATTER IS THAT, IN YOUR OWN VERSION, THIS WAS NOTHING OTHER THAN A SEQUENCE OF BRUTAL AND CALLOUS ACTS WHICH DEPRIVED THIS YOUNG MAN OF HER LIFE. IT ALSO DEPRIVED HER LOVED ONES OF HER PRESENCE IN THEIR LIVES. IN THESE CIRCUMSTANCES, THE COMMUNITY AT LARGE WILL RIGHTLY EXPECT THIS COURT'S SENTENCE TO REFLECT THE SERIOUSNESS WITH WHICH CRIMES OF THIS NATURE ARE REGARDED. NO LESSER SENTENCE WOULD BE APPROPRIATE IN THE CIRCUMSTANCES OF THIS CASE."
ACTING JUDGE CLOETE

On the evening of 21 September, the couple got embroiled in an argument about one of Bester's former girlfriends. Bester told the court that Tyhulu was under the impression that he wanted a permanent relationship with her. After the argument they went to sleep.

At 2am on 22 September, Bester woke up, walked to the kitchen and took out a knife from the kitchen. He then walked back into the bedroom with the knife only

to find that Tyhulu was awake. They became involved in a struggle for control and possession of the knife. He stabbed Tyhulu in the chest.

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VICTORY FOR A WOMAN IN MAMELODI

Medupe Simasiku

The matter of the State versus Eddie Sekgobela and one other was reported to the South African Police Service (SAPS) on 8 October 2008 after which the survivor was treated at the Mamelodi Thuthuzela Care Centre (TCC).

The survivor, aged 45, was on her way home when she was attacked by two known men. One of the accused happened to be her friend's grandson. The survivor testified that the two accused were close to her, they used to visit together at her place. She first reported the matter to her friend, the accused's grandmother, just to let her know of her predicament as a friend.

TCC personnel at Mamelodi did a sterling job in building the relationship with the survivor to prevent secondary victimization. The results were conclusively positive in respect of accused number one. The Case Manager secured the docket in court and assisted the prosecutor with the arrangement of consultations with the witnesses. This was done to ensure that the case would be trial ready when it got to court. This

did not end there, but the relationship established between the TCC employees and the prosecutor ensured that all that was needed to get a conviction was in place.

The accused were convicted and the Presiding Officer rejected the defence version of their innocence. Both accused were sentenced to 16 years each on the 9th of July 2012. "This was a long awaited verdict and this is part of an ongoing battle to emancipate all women from all forms of abuse. It is a victory for all women who are victims and survivors of rape attacks in this country," declared Tumi Phongola. She went on to say that "I fought this battle to get this conviction and it was not easy but worth it".

"This matter is of importance for us as the majority of survivors coming to the TCC are children aged between two and 17 years. This case is a victory for all women in the community and justice was served at last for the victim," said Lida van Schalkwyk. Of great significance, the survivor in this case is also assisting the TCC in a support group to empower other survivors; clear evidence that through

the system, the survivor does not only get justice but is able to put everything behind her and move on to join in the fight to deal with this scourge of women and children abuse.

Mamelodi TCC and personnel are dedicated in supporting every victim on their journey to becoming a survivor.



Ms. Tumi Phongola (Regional Court Prosecutor), Mr. Tello Motaung (Senior Public Prosecutor - Pretoria) and Ms. Lida van Schalkwyk (Mamelodi TCC Case Manager)

Medupe Simasiku is the Regional Communications Manager for DPP: North Gauteng

Continued from page 13

Straight after stabbing her, he noticed that she was bleeding profusely. She was lying faced down on the bed and he then tied her hands behind her back and asked her for the password for her laptop but at that stage she was not responding. He stayed with her body until 7am when he approached the guest house owner for a lift into central Cape Town whereafter he flew to Durban, taking her cellphone and laptop with him.

He told the guest house owner that Tyhulu was still sleeping and should not be woken up until after 2pm. At 9pm that evening, the owners of the guest house became more concerned that they had not heard from Tyhulu the whole day. They decided to unlock the door and were greeted by the gruesome scene of the dead woman with a stab wound in her chest. They then called the police and also discovered that a knife from their kitchen was missing.

Dubbed the facebook murderer, he will

be eligible for consideration for parole after serving 25 years of his sentence but the courts will also consider the 75 years he was supposed to have served before granting him parole. He is also facing two outstanding charges of fraud in Johannesburg, an armed robbery charge

in Boksburg and another fraud charge in Wynberg, Cape Town.

COMMENTARY BY ADVOCATE SAMANTHA RAPHELS

I have successfully prosecuted the State versus Thabo Bester case, whom the media dubbed 'the Facebook Rapist'. They had done so because the accused would lure unsuspecting young women on facebook with the promise of television and modelling work. The accused would then rape and rob them of their belongings.

In the case at the Western Cape High Court, the accused met the deceased Nomfundo Tyulu in Johannesburg.

His fingerprints were also all over the room and he left his sneakers behind.

The conviction of Thabo Bester is important as I believe that it is testimony to the NPA's commitment to the eradication of gender based violence. The victims of Thabo Bester, as far afield as Durban, contacted me to thank the NPA and myself for our dedication in ensuring that he will never be able to hurt another young woman again.

I would hope that victims of gender based violence would understand through this judgment that the NPA is committed to the reduction of women and children abuse.

Below is an article taken from the North West University Alumni magazine written about Frank Lesenyego, Regional Communications Manager, DPP: Mafikeng.

Working with words, he strives for justice

Mr Frank Lesenyego's career not only reflects his life-long love of communication, but also his sense of justice.

His childhood dream of working in the print or electronic media prompted him to study for a BA Communication degree between 1999 and 2001 on the Mafikeng Campus of the former University of North-West.

"Growing up in Mafikeng, I often listened to the radio. My hero and role model was radio announcer Lerato Kuntwane from Radio Mmabatho, way back in the era of the former Bophuthatswana," says Frank.

During Frank's student years, Prof Takallo Mofokeng was the rector of the Campus and Ms Modiegi Mosime was head of the Communication Department.

After completing his degree and guided by his reverence for fairness, he looked for employment as a communication officer in the office of the Land Claims Commission.

No simple matter

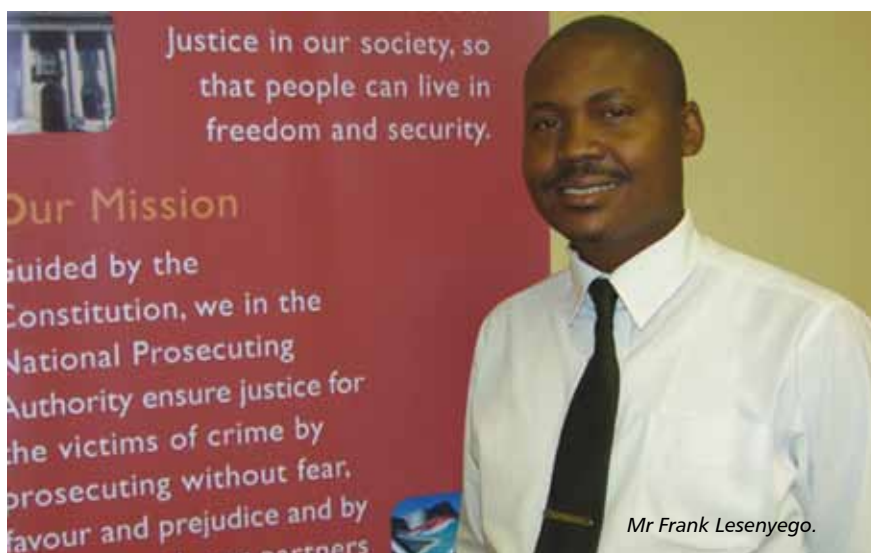
Working at the regional offices of the Land Claims Commission – first in Mafikeng, then in Nelspruit and ultimately as assistant director of the Communications and Media Liaison Unit in Kimberley – he realised that the land restitution process was no simple matter.

One of the difficulties was – and still is – that lost land has since been developed and instead of resettling people on the land that they once owned, they are now merely financially compensated for it.

"I believe that this defies the principle of redistribution to a great extent," he says.

Justice for all

Still driven by his sense of justice and fairness, Frank joined the regional office of the National Prosecuting Authority (NPA) of South Africa in Mmabatho in 2008, where he is still employed. Frank explains the special role that the NPA plays in the justice



system: "In terms of the Constitution, their mandate is to institute criminal proceedings on behalf of the State and to carry out various functions flowing from it."

Talking to the people

Frank enjoys dealing directly with the people on ground level while conducting community outreach programmes on behalf of the NPA.

"This gives me the opportunity to keep people informed about the role the institution plays in our justice system and consequently build a positive image of the NPA in the community," he says.

Another important aspect of his work is to establish a good working relationship with members of the media.

"The secret," he says, "is to disseminate enough information to enable them to do their work properly. In return their goodwill often results in positive coverage, promoting your corporate identity and building your image."

As assistant director of the Corporate Communications, Internal and Media Liaison

Unit, he has high hopes that the print media will survive the current electronic information age.

"I think that social media like Twitter and Facebook will rather complement printed media instead of replacing it. People still want to be able to refer back to some written or printed document."

He stays in contact

With many of his cousins currently studying on the Mafikeng Campus, Frank visits the campus regularly.

"I also have contact with people who studied with me – we actually had our own small reunion last year," he says.

Frank is the proud father of a four-month-old baby girl, Matlhogonolo. "She is such a blessing," he says.

He intends to instill in her the same values that he learned from his father.

"My late father said what you give to the world, the world will give back to you a thousand times. I believe this definitely applies to love."



LETTERS OF RECOGNITION

My name is Brett Bowman. I am the husband of Candice Bowman and the brother in-law of Jacqui Tom's. I would like to let you know that through the actions of yourself, Westville police station and your justice team, you have re-instilled my faith in the South African justice system. When we first approached the Pinetown Regional Magistrates' Court I was extremely negative, we had the honour of meeting Senior Prosecutor Linda Kisten who initially got the ball rolling for us. What a wonderful, compassionate and professional woman. She immediately made my wife Candice feel at ease, she asked all the right questions and conducted follow up whilst the case was at Pinetown Court. She escalated the case up to the Director of Public Prosecutions and she also made herself available on Friday 24 August 2012 when the Judge handed down his judgements. This meant a lot to us and she will forever be in our hearts.

Advocate Melanie Naiker represented us at the Durban High Court. She was always professional, always asked the right questions, was sympathetic, thorough and extremely passionate about her job. We thanked her on many occasions and her response was always that she loved her job and she was passionate about what she did. This was evident during the trial. Words cannot describe how well she conducted herself and how well she presented our case. All I can say is, "Melanie you are the most vigilant, professional, dynamic and passionate person that I have ever met. We thank you with all our hearts."

Prudence Geraud, Court Preparation Officer, was our Victim Impact Counsellor. She crept into our hearts, comforted and consoled us when we broke down in tears. She never left our side during the whole two week trial. She was an amazing person and she always conducted herself in a professional manner. She made a difference in our lives. We are thankful for what she has done for us. She is such a genuine and sincere person. I do not know how we would have coped without her by our side. Her constant reassurance and wonderful heart and passion put us at ease constantly. She will always be in our hearts and thoughts.

Many Thanks
Brett Mathew Bowman

My name is Namhla Siko. I would like to extend my gratitude to Tsepo Ndwalaza, Regional Communications Manager, DPP: Grahamstown, for constantly updating my family regarding our case. As a family we feel a sense of respect. This gives us hope that justice will be served in the end. May God protect you.

Thank you
Namhla Siko

NPA EVENTS

SINAWE & NGWELEZANE TCCS LAUNCHED

Nomilo Mpondo and Natasha Ramkisson

TCCs are a one stop facility for victims of sexual abuse, thus preventing secondary victimisation.

The proudly South African TCC model is beginning to be the pride of the country with other countries like Chile adopting the concept.

The absence of Minister Jeff Radebe did not stop the launch of Sinawe TCC in Mthatha in early July. The equally able Deputy National Director of Public Prosecutions, Dr Silas Ramaite, led the NPA during the launch. This launch marked the 53rd in the country. Rhetorically, Dr Ramaite asked if we were a normal society. He could not fathom why treacherous sexual crimes were allowed to take place. He however retorted that TCCs were there to offer solace to victims of those crimes.

Speaking to the community that raised her, Adv Majokweni, encouraged the Mthatha community to participate in legislation to ensure that their voices at community level were heard. Explaining the TCCs value add to the Mthatha community, she said TCCs were centers to mend and empower victims that have been raped by others. Defending the rights of women, she said in a democratic country women are allowed to go to taverns and no man is allowed to take away that right from them. Seumus Mac Roibin from UNICEF added that



Chief Mtirara, Mrs Titus, Major-General Magadla, Adv Majokweni, Mayor Ngcobo, Dr Madiba, S. Mac Roibin and Dr Ramaite unveiling the plaque at the launch of the Sinawe TCC

violence towards women and other vulnerable groups prevented the so much needed social cohesion.

Adv Mkhuseleli Jokani ended the session articulating on the workings of the Sexual Offences Act. He said the new act repeals the common law of rape, indecent assault, incest, bestiality and violation of a corpse. Emphasis on the issue of “Ukuthwala” known to be prevalent in that part of the country was also made. Jokani, warned against misuse of culture by men under the pretext of culture.

Chief Mtirara, Secretary of the KSD Traditional Leaders, appreciative of the robust debate that ensued with very eloquent speakers on the programme quipped, “I came, I saw and I conquered”.

The 54th launch took place at the Ngwelezane Hospital, Empangeni in August 2012. The Ngwelezane TCC started its operations in the same month.

Several dignitaries from local, national and international structures graced the launch.

The Mayor of the UThungulu district welcomed the TCC concept, saying that the area experienced a high rate of teenage and child pregnancies. She said the TCC would serve as a beacon of hope to all the vulnerable people in the area.

Jeff Borns from USAID said that it was an honour and a privilege for the United States government to help South Africa promote its anti-rape strategy. He applauded the partnerships that existed between the government and NGOs.

The Department of Social Development’s Deputy Director General, Nomsa Mbanjwa said that the Department felt proud to be a part of something that would honour the victims of crime. She



P. Mafani, Adv Noko, Dr Khanyile, Dr J. Dhlamini, M.M. Zungu, Minister Jeff Radebe, Adv Jiba, Adv Majokweni and J. Borns at the launch of the Ngwelezane TCC

said that the TCC turned victims into survivors and credible witnesses.

The Acting NDPP, Adv Nomgcobo Jiba made references to the two recent cases from KZN that caught national media attention. The first occurred in Mtunzini, where an eight year old girl was raped by a 15 year old boy. He also gorged her eye out of its socket and the girl had to have a glass eye fixed. The other matter took place in Port Shepstone where four school boys plied a school girl with alcohol and then raped her. The incident was filmed and

the footage circulated around the school. She assured the audience of the NPA and SOCA's commitment and dedication to eradicating gender based violence. The NDPP applauded the Minister of Justice and Constitutional Development for his comments made during his Budget Vote about resurrecting the sexual offences courts.

Minister Jeff Radebe urged South Africans to respect and protect women and children, saying that sexual abuse was a gross violation of women's rights.

Its effects were scarring and could lead to loss of childhood and abandoned education.

The minister rounded off his address by stating that the reason that most women, children and even families don't report sexual abuse was lack of trust in the authorities as well as the associated stigmas. He commended the people that deal first hand with victims of abuse.

NPA ENGAGES COASTAL COMMUNITIES ON ENVIRONMENTAL CRIMES

Luxolo Tyali

On 27 July 2012, the NPA took its education and awareness road show to the remote coastal Ntubeni villages surrounding Dwesa Nature Reserve.

The road show was an attempt by the Mthatha DPP office to ensure that the role of the NPA is clearly understood by those communities and to address specific concerns that are pertinent to the target communities.

The community residing on the outskirts of Dwesa Nature Reserve in most cases find themselves on the wrong side of the law by committing crimes against protected species inside the nature reserve. Thus, the Specialized Crime Prosecution unit, led by the newly appointed Deputy Director of Public Prosecutions, Adv Nokuthula Majova, strongly felt the need to ensure the community has an understanding of how the Criminal Justice System works, so as to reduce the number of environmental

cases on their roll.

This is after the DPP office had to decide on a murder docket resulting from the killing of an illegal fisher on the shoreline of Dwesa nature reserve by the reserve's guards, escalating tensions between the community and the reserve's administration.

The event was attended by about 400 people, who were also addressed by the South African Police Service, Environmental Affairs, Forestry and Fisheries, the Minerals and Resources Departments, as well as South African Parks Board, Correctional Services and the Department of Justice.

A question and answer session was provided for, after which Butterworth Cluster Chief Prosecutor, Vela Balfour gave the main address in which a conclusion to all issues raised was provided.



Adv Nokuthula Majova answers a question during the road show in Dwesa



Chief Prosecutor Vela Balfour addressing the Dwesa Road Show



Community member makes his point during the Dwesa Road Show with NPA staff listening attentively

Luxolo Tyali is the Regional Communications Manager for DPP: Mthatha

NPA PARTNERS WITH PROUDLY SOUTH AFRICAN IN REACHING OUT TO THE YOUTH

Phindi Louw

The NPA has joined forces with the National Education Department in a campaign against sexual abuse and bullying. The campaign, spearheaded by 'Proudly South African', was established following unabated abuse of young women in the country, especially the rape of a young handicapped woman that took place in Soweto.

The campaign was officially launched on 16 June, Youth Day, and seeks to divert the youth from criminal ways and encourage the youth to focus on positive things that mould their future. It included the official signing of the 'Ubuntu Pledge' by all participating stakeholders including the NPA. This, after the realisation that most of these horrific crimes are committed by the youth.

The campaign will move to schools in Gauteng and is set to roll out to other provinces later this year. The escalating trend of sexual offences and violence in schools where learners stab and kill one another gave rise to this campaign to assist in the eradication of these outrageous crimes. This campaign is meant to sensitise young people about the dangers of sexual engagement, bullying and violence.

This partnership complements the NPA's existing campaign of school outreach that was started at the beginning of 2012, focusing on educating learners about the perils of early sexual activity, rape, drug abuse, mob violence and social media.

Ubuntu is an ethical concept of South African origin, that means "I am who I am because of who we all are". Successful businessman and CEO of Proudly South African, Adv Lesley Sedibe, mentioned that the campaign seeks to restore humanity, morals, values and to reach out to the youth of our country. "We need to empower the youth and give them hope

in order for them to enjoy the fruits of the new South Africa that many people sacrificed their lives for," he said.

The campaign is also joined by celebrities such as PJ Powers, Yvonne Chakachaka, Baby Jake Matlala and many others, who will serve the purpose of motivating young stars to utilise their free time in developing their God given talents.

They reminded adults in attendance that Ubuntu is a societal responsibility. "South Africans must stop living in isolation, communities need to stand together in re-instilling morals, values, respect for human life and a sense of pride in our youth," said PJ Powers.

A video of the collaboration work by South African artists was played. The video urges the nation to "Shout Out" and break the silence.

"Boys should protect girls and not abuse them" was a plea from Yvonne Chakachaka to the youth whilst Baby Jake Matlala told them that he became the world champion because he was disciplined and focused, and that they should follow suit if they wanted to succeed.

Orlando Pirates also graced the occasion, their PRO Mr Nicky Modisane and Captain Lucky Lekgwathi added to the celebrities' commitments to lend a



helping hand.

Bulelwa Makeke signed the Ubuntu pledge on behalf of the NPA.

"I am happy that the National Prosecuting Authority is part of this project as they can help spread the message to our youth that they must begin to act responsibly and will be held accountable for reckless behaviour by legal authorities. Responsibility should run concurrently with our freedom," said the Deputy Minister of Education, Enver Surty, who was a guest speaker.





NPA AT THE UNISA LAW STUDENTS SEMINAR

Nomilo Mpondo

Honouring Womens' Day, Unisa Law Students Association (ULSA) invited the NPA to participate in a very informative session that was organised to enlighten and empower college law students. A formidable team that comprised a wide spectrum of speakers from the NPA indulged the students. The first to speak was Adv Mthunzi Mhaga who enthusiastically took the students through the role of the NPA in the criminal justice system. He went on to engage students on how a decision to prosecute is usually arrived at.

He said the decision to prosecute depended on a consultative process. Swiftly, he enlightened the students about the Jub

Jub case, explaining circumstances under which a culpable homicide charge can be changed to murder. He used another example explaining how the NPA was victorious in getting Humphreys charged and sentenced for murder after a group of school going pupils were killed when their taxi, driven by Humphreys, collided with a train on a level crossing in Cape Town.

Commenting on the importance of ethics in the NPA, Mokotedi said the reasons whether to prosecute or not are always based on justified and ethical reasoning. He gave a detailed definition of the meaning of the word 'ethical'. Still on a high note, Adv Vuyo Mhlanga took the students through the Victims' Charter

explaining all sections of the law upon which the charter stands. Her presentation would not have been complete without touching on the Thuthuzela Care Centres. Students listened attentively while she explained how TCCs work, the role of court preparation officers and the partnership between the NPA and traditional leaders in an effort to eradicate gender based violence.

The field was now levelled for Robert Mampana to market the NPA. He comprehensively explained the process for aspiring prosecutors to get into the aspirant prosecutor programme. Students were delighted to hear how much an entry level prosecutor would earn.



Adv Mhlanga, Mpho Morolane, Boledi Maboki, Adv Mhaga, Robert Mampana, Prince Mokotedi and Yonela Ntloko at the Unisa Law Students Association seminar

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