

# KHASHO

MAR /APR 2013



ENSURING PROSECUTIONS WITHOUT FEAR, FAVOUR OR PREJUDICE

**Lengthy  
sentences for  
rapists**

---

**International  
award for  
SCCU**

---

**AWB dealt  
a blow**

---

**Know  
about  
Financial  
Operations**



## Contents

- 02 LETTER FROM THE MANAGING EDITOR
- 03 MESSAGE FROM THE NDPP
- 04 FROM THE DESK OF THE CEO
- 05 LIFE SENTENCE FOR CHILD RAPIST
- 06 FRAUD CASE FOR MULDER FAMILY
- 07 AWB AND THE LONG ARM OF THE LAW
- 08 TAXI DRIVER GET TWO LIFE SENTENCES FOR RAPE AND MURDER
- 09 360 YEARS FOR THE ACCUSED
- 10 SERIAL RAPIST GETS FIVE LIFE SENTENCES
- 11 INTERNATIONAL AWARD FOR LIONEL KROON
- 12 MOSES RANTAO SHARES HIS EXPERIENCE
- 13 LEMMER LUDWICK - FREE STATE CORPORATE MANAGER
- 14 MEET FINANCIAL OPERATIONS
- 15 MOTIVATIONAL FLOATING TROPHY LAUNCHED
- 16 COFFEE SHOP ETHICS FORUM
- 17 NPA EVENTS

## LETTER FROM THE MANAGING EDITOR

In this edition we focus a lot of our attention on the fight against rape in the country. In the recent weeks and months we have come across a renewed public outrage about the scourge of rape, particularly in the violent nature of recent incidents such as the Anene Booysen case in the Western Cape. The overall focus from the communication perspective, as outlined in the NPA communication strategy, is to highlight successful rape prosecutions and to address unsuccessful cases by raising awareness on the challenges that impacted on the outcome of the cases, so that the public is aware of not only the reasons but how they as complainants, witnesses and those close to witnesses can assist the criminal justice in improving the prospects of successful rape prosecutions. The communication strategy outlines this campaign fully and continuous communication within the organisation will provide further detail on the campaign as it rolls out.

The success of this campaign will rely on the full support and assistance of all prosecutors across the country, providing us with details of these cases to communicate. Our long term goal is a desire to put rape perpetrators in jail for a long time. The NPA is proud of all prosecutors in all their efforts in securing lengthy convictions in rape cases.

We are also excited about the upcoming roll-out of the community television campaign that has been in planning and production phase since last year. The planned educational campaign is an extension of the community media roll-out that has dominated our communication strategy for the past few years on radio. The campaign will roll-out



Bulelwa Makeke  
Executive Manager: Communications

on Tshwane TV from July, and more specific details of the roll-out will be communicated closer to the time.

The communication strategy also focuses on raising awareness on audit issues, in the lead up to the achieving a clean audit for the organisation. The communication campaign – aptly dubbed ‘Operation Clean Audit’ will be talking directly to you as the employee and what your role is in ensuring that the organisation achieves this objective. Do look out for this roll-out from July. I believe you will also find it very insightful.

We continue with profiling Support Services and what services they provide for you the employee within the organisational context, and how they add value to the core business of the NPA. Follow this edition and learn about how Financial Operations adds value and assistance to you. You will also learn about the role and functions of the directors of administration in the various DPP offices.

*Bulelwa Makeke is the Executive Manager: Communications*

## THE NPA HOTLINE

# 0800 212 580

BUILDING A CULTURE OF REPORTING UNETHICAL AND UNLAWFUL PRACTICES, PROMOTING AND ENABLING WHISTLE-BLOWING.

# MESSAGE FROM THE NDPP



At the apex of our agenda is the improvement of performance within the organisation. I am pleased to report a significant improvement of performance for the NPA as compared to last year. This indicates that the NPA is on track to achieving the levels of performance recorded in 2009 before structural changes were introduced in which the SCCU and the NPS were highly impacted. This achievement can only be attributed to the hard work and zealous efforts by prosecutors who remain committed in ensuring that all people are and feel safe. All prosecutors are commended for their efforts in this regard and are encouraged to keep the flame illuminated.

At the heart of this improvement is the enhanced focus on DPP offices. The DPP's that achieved and exceeded set annual targets are highly commended. We implore all core business divisions that did not achieve their targets to step up the game to maintain consistency and continued improvement on performance.

The NPA has continued to make inroads in the reduction of case backlogs in all courts. We have achieved a significant reduction for the past three years to date. This could be ascribed to the focus and assistance of the backlog courts together with the dedication and commitment from all role-players.

One also needs to appreciate the inadequate conditions that some prosecutors work in; doing more with less and experiencing budgetary constraints whilst making concerted efforts to ensure improved performance even in the face of challenges. This gesture is truly heartening.

As an effort to enhance organisational performance, the NPA EXCO undertook to implement and monitor performance based projects. These projects were articulated well in the first edition of EXCO Bytes. The next issue will give developments around these important projects and other EXCO decisions that

affect you.

I am encouraged already by the indication of a significant achievement in the first quarter of this financial year. This improvement is achieved despite budgetary constraints and cost cutting measures that are experienced by the organisation.

The battering that the NPA has had to endure these past few weeks is not a new phenomenon to any prosecuting authority. The NPA is used to dust that always follows an unpopular prosecutorial decision. As a prosecuting authority, we will always be challenged to make decisions that carry painful implications for the organisation, stakeholders and the justice system in its entirety and therefore we should not be demoralised by the backlash that ensues. The ability to make unpopular decisions bears all the hallmarks of a legitimate institution, which we are.

As the organisation, we have cut through the noise and political chatter in the past and we will certainly pass through this one too. We must be encouraged by the legitimacy of our organisation and stay true to our organisational convictions and values.

Perhaps I need to reiterate that the NPA's only allegiance is to the Constitution of the country which compels us to prosecute without fear, favour or prejudice. This is the mandate that is bestowed upon us.

Let us therefore become resolute in discharging our mandate guided by the NPA vision of a just society where people can live in freedom and security.

We need to be steadfast in both the interpretation and application of the prescripts of the country's laws that give us leverage in exercising our judicial rights and choices. The onus is on us to educate our families, friends and communities about these rights and choices. I therefore call upon all of you to be good ambassadors of the NPA brand,



Acting NDPP  
Adv Nomgcobo Jiba

who do not become spectators when the NPA image is vilified. Let us be the walking and talking embodiment of the organisation that we represent.

The reality of our profession is that we must from time to time prove our worth. A need to kindle a culture of communication and engagement about the organisation's successes becomes necessary therefore. It does not matter how our Annual Reports and other NPA publications can articulate on our work and successes, a need to re-affirm our existence will always beckon. It is incumbent upon us therefore, the lawyers of the people to work hard in inspiring the confidence of the people we serve.

*Nomgcobo Jiba is the Acting NDPP*

## FROM THE DESK OF THE CEO



The 2012/2013 financial year has come to an end and presents an opportune moment to reflect on lessons learnt from past successes and failures and to make future plans. The 2013/2014 Annual Performance Plan (APP) is a continuation of the strategic direction embarked on by the NPA and has merely sought to refine measures and targets. The test will be in the implementation thereof, more so in the cash strapped environment we find ourselves in. Every individual in the organisation, regardless of rank, is important and must understand how each one of us fits into the bigger picture. Each person needs to pull in the same direction to move this organisation to a high performance engine.

The previous financial year was the toughest year for us, I must confess. During the third quarter, it became clear that we were operating under extra ordinary budgetary constraints caused by a projected overspend on Compensation of Employees. Cost savings of R83m had to be generated from the Goods and Services budget to ensure that not one employee would be prejudiced when it came to his or her personnel expenditure. Similarly we did not want to see contract appointments stopped so causing undue hardship.

The media has attributed this situation to poor financial planning. I would like to assure you that the NPA can pride itself of excellent financial planning and management. We have spent our total budget allocation, which I believe is the first time in the existence of the NPA, leaving a mere 12 cents in the budget at the end of year. The situation in the Compensation of Employees expenditure in the 2012/13 financial year was caused by the following factors:

- Implementation of the JE judgement
- Expansion of the salary bands and ceilings through the implementation of Occupational Specific Dispensation (OSD)

- Higher than anticipated carry-through cost of OSD.

With your support, we were able to remain within the allocated budget while not compromising on core business. Thank you for making this possible.

Unfortunately the situation for the coming three years is no better with a projected overspend on the Compensation of Employee budget of R100m in the current year, R137m in the second year and R167m in the year after. Forced savings from the tight Goods and Services budget will have to be made in order to meet the commitments in the Compensation of Employees. We remain committed to ensuring that employee commitments are met and that no jobs are sacrificed where possible.

We will continue to engage the Department of Justice and Constitutional Development and the National Treasury with a view to remedying our financial situation. We have already briefed the portfolio committee to illicit their support in this regard. The results of these discussions will be made known to you as soon as they become available. At the moment, stringent cost saving measures will remain in place.

For the new financial year, we are not changing our formula and approach towards the attainment of a clean audit. Huge improvements are evident but when seeking a clean audit it is necessary to cross the t's and dot the i's so to speak. Governance is at the centre of a clean audit.

As a prosecuting authority, our every action is open for public scrutiny and there are inherently lots of things that can ruin our image. We can only redeem ourselves and enhance our image through resolute actions that resonate with good governance endeavours. Let us therefore have a single vision of acting with integrity at all times and for doing the right thing even when no-one is watching. There is in any case always



Karen Van Rensburg, CEO

someone that is watching.

As we enter into a new financial year, it is proper for me to thank all of you for your support throughout the year. It will be remiss of me not to recognise your efforts. Combined commitment and participation to all NPA efforts will have a vital role in achieving the vision of this organisation of achieving justice in our society so that the people can live in freedom and security.

By the way, the NPA vision is echoed in the National Development Plan (NDP) where safety and security is mentioned as the core element of a decent standard of living. All these government ideals cannot be achieved by one but by all of us.

At a personal level, I find myself now as the CEO of the NPA and want to thank all for the kind wishes in this regard. To the young people out there I want to tell you that I started as a Clerk of Court in a small magistrates' court. There is nothing special about me-only hard work and commitment. Allow yourself to dream.

*Karen Van Rensburg is the CEO*

# LIFE SENTENCE FOR CHILD RAPIST

Luxolo Tyali

In February the Mthatha Regional Court sentenced Mthembeni Mkwambi to life imprisonment for the rape of a ten-year-old girl from his village.

Sentencing the 46-year-old rapist, magistrate Vinosh Govindarajulu described Mkwambi as an extremely dangerous person who deserved to be kept far away from society and children.

“The accused person came to this court with only one thing in his mind; to lie his way out of what he knew he did.

“He did not show any remorse even after he conceded to having been responsible for the gruesome attack on an innocent child, who will always carry the scars of the incident for the whole of her life.

“There is just no place for people like you in our society,” added magistrate Govindarajulu after commending the prosecution for being able to present a strong case under difficult circumstances. Mkwambi raped the young girl two

years ago after he accosted her walking alone in the remote village of Ntshilini near Ngqeleni. He dragged her to an open ground in broad daylight but there were no eyewitnesses.

After her ordeal in the hands of the ruthless rapist, the girl managed to get home and reported the incident to her mother.

Due to the remoteness of their village from the nearest police station, her mother only managed to take the little girl to the police a little longer than it would have been possible to take DNA evidence from the girl.

So the state only relied on the evidence of the ten-year-old, who was accordingly assisted by the NPA Court Preparation Officers.

After closing his case, the confident and arrogant Mkwambi took the stand and might have thought he had everyone under his thumb before he was cross-examined by prosecutor Luvuyo Pomolo.

Struggling to provide answers to the flurry of questions from the prosecutor, he dramatically ended up conceding to having been the culprit. “I admit I raped the girl....So what?” Those were the arrogant utterances that finally nailed the fate of the seemingly respectable man, who appeared to disappoint the many people who attended the case to support him.

## COMMENTARY BY PROSECUTOR LUVUYO POMOLO

I am a district court prosecutor who was requested to assist in the regional court due to staff shortages, and this was one of my first cases at the regional court level.

Due to challenges emanating from the investigation of the case, the case was already in the backlog roll, having been on the roll since 2011.

With only the evidence of the 10 year-old to work with, it seemed an extremely difficult task to prove the case. However, with the guidance of the Regional Court SPP Mr. Jongikhaya Busakwe, and the experience I gained in the Aspirant Prosecutor programme, I was well-equipped to deal with the challenge.

Cross-examining the accused person proved to be a very lengthy exercise but because I could see that there were contradictions in his version of events, I had to push myself to the limit.

This case became an eye-opener, it taught me to really make the best of whatever little evidence was at my disposal. As a result, I have managed to get a number of criminals to jail for lengthy sentences with the experience I got from doing this case.

I also thank the management of the Mthatha Division for exposing us prosecutors from lower courts to the regional court so that when the time comes for us to permanently work at the regional court we are ready to face anything.



Prosecutor Luvuyo Pomolo

*Luxolo Tyali is the Regional Communications Manager for DPP: Mthatha*

# FRAUD CASE FOR MULDER FAMILY

Frank Lesenyego

On 18 March 2013 at Mogwase High Court, Judge Ronald Hendricks sentenced Marthie Frederika Mulder, Andries Hermanus Mulder and Frederick Johannes Kruger to a lengthy period behind bars. The Accused persons were convicted on 290 counts of fraud read with section 51 (2) (a) of the Criminal Law Amendment Act 105 of 1997 totalling more than R 5 million.

Marthie Frederika Mulder was employed by Van Velden Duffey Attorneys as a bookkeeper between March 2007 and August 2011 in Rustenburg during which time she defrauded the law firm of more than R5 million. Marthie, accused no 1, arranged for payments to be made to Frederick Johannes Kruger and other family members on the basis that they were medical practitioners who rendered services in claims against the Road Accident Fund. Marthie Mulder knew that they were not medical practitioners but were family members, friends, vehicle dealers where she and her husband Andries Hermanus Mulder bought vehicles and lessors of property where they both stayed.

In the case of the husband, even though he was not employed by the law firm, he was aware of the fraudulent actions of his wife and benefitted from her actions. He purchased vehicles paid directly from the bank accounts of Van Velden-Duffey. The brother of Marthie Frederika Mulder, Frederick Johannes Kruger was also aware of fraudulent actions committed by Marthie Mulder and her husband Andries Hermanus Mulder. He benefited directly from the crimes as he was the direct recipient of more than R2.5 million from the bank accounts of Van Velden-Duffey.

When Judge Ronald Hendricks sentenced the accused, he said the court was satisfied with the plea bargain agreement entered into between the state, defence and the accused. The accused confirmed before court that they were aware of the contents of the plea bargain and they were under no circumstances forced or influenced to enter into a plea bargain against their free will.

In aggravation, it was indeed confirmed

that Marthie Frederika Mulder was in a position of trust and that she abused her powers by making multiple fraudulent payments. She was grossly dishonest and motivated by greed because they spent the money on luxury vehicles, jet-skis, boats and other luxury items. The crime was committed over a long period of time, carefully planned and executed and the complainant incurred the loss of more than R5 million which was not recovered. Marthie had a previous conviction for fraud and the court accepted that there were mitigating factors, the accused were remorseful and accepted responsibility for the offences and pleaded guilty to all charges.

On 23 September 2011, the Asset Forfeiture Unit obtained a restraint order in terms of section 26 of the Prevention of Organised Crime Act 122 of 1999 in the North West High Court. The Mulders owned two Landrover Discovery vehicles, a Ford Fiesta, a 16 Feet Bowrider boat, a Wave Blaster II Jetski, a Kia 2700 light delivery and a Mazda Drifter Bakkie with a total value of R 765 227. On 10 January 2013 they were arrested by members of the Commercial Crime, Financial and Asset Forfeiture Investigation Section, the Hawks.

The court pronounced that all counts were treated as one for the purpose of sentencing and Marthie Frederika Mulder was sentenced to 20 years imprisonment, of which five years were suspended for five years on condition that the accused would not be convicted of fraud and / or theft again within the period of suspension. Andries Hermanus Mulder was sentenced to 15 years imprisonment, of which five years were suspended for five years on condition that the accused would not be convicted of fraud and / or theft again within the period of suspension. Frederick Johannes Kruger was sentenced to five years imprisonment, of which two years were suspended for five years on condition that the accused would not be convicted of fraud and / or theft again within the period of suspension. The matter was handled by the Specialised Commercial Crime Unit of the North West Province.

KHASHO asked Deputy Director of



Adv Jeanette Nevelling

Public Prosecutions: Adv Jeanette Nevelling some questions about the case.

**How do you feel now that this case is finalised?**

I am satisfied with the outcome of the case and our small SCCU unit is ready for the next ones.

**What was your position during the trial?**

I am grateful to all role players for the manner in which the case was handled. Everybody played a role in the swift finalisation and successful plea agreement.

**Any lessons experienced as you move forward to deal with other cases?**

We continue to prioritise fraud and / or corruption cases with values exceeding R5 million and acknowledge the importance of plea agreements in this regard.

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

# AWB AND THE LONG ARM OF THE LAW

Tsepo Ndwalaza

In February 1997, the body of Susanna Maria De Wet, a 41-year old female, was found on the Antoniesberg farm, in the Patensie district.

The body was buried and badly decomposed. The burial site was pointed out by an AWB member who alleged that the said Susanna Maria De Wet, the wife of the AWB member Jan De Wet, was, during September 1996, buried by other AWB members. The said members were hiding in the area after they managed to escape subsequent to being convicted on a number of allegations during the 1994 elections in the Gauteng area. The post mortem, however, revealed that the deceased was probably suffocated or strangled and did not die because of a heart attack.

A murder docket was opened and

forwarded to the then AG's office in Port Elizabeth. No prosecution was instituted. An inquest was later held and it was found that Susanna Maria De Wet was murdered by people unknown.

During 2012, Detective Captain Ben Nel of the Hawks approached the DDPP office in Port Elizabeth with a confession made by Abraham "Koper" Liebrecht Myburgh. Myburgh alleged that he and a certain Nicolaas Clifton Barnard, both serving life sentences for the 1994 election bombings and the 1997 Worcester bombings were responsible for the death of DeWet.

We decided to arraign Myburgh on a charge of murder in the regional court. On 30 August 2012, Myburgh was convicted of murder and sentenced to 10 years imprisonment. Myburgh agreed

to furnish the State with an affidavit stating the involvement of Barnard in the commission of the offence.

Once an affidavit had been obtained from Myburgh, a decision to also arraign Barnard on a charge of murder was made. It was arranged that Barnard be transferred from Pretoria Central to St. Albans Maximum prison. The Legal Aid Board was contacted to have a practitioner available on short notice. On 18 January 2013 Barnard was also convicted of murder and sentenced to 10 years imprisonment.

## COMMENTARY BY ADV MARIAS STANDER

Prior to the matter going to court for the first time, Captain Ben Nel made contact with Jan De Wet, the husband of the deceased. He wanted no further involvement in the matter. Subsequent to the conviction of Myburgh, and a news article being published, the daughter of the deceased, Tanya Steyn, made contact with Advocate Stander. She indicated that she was never informed about the detail of her mother passing away and that her children never met their grandmother. She dearly wanted to know how her mother passed away.

She was furnished with a copy of the court proceedings and all the relevant documentation. During a number of subsequent telephone calls she indicated her gratitude to the NPA for its decision not to merely "forget about the murder of her mother". The prosecution and sentence of both Myburgh and Barnard was the first that she heard how her mother died and this gave her a certain amount of closure.



Adv Marias Stander

*Tsepo Ndwalaza is the Regional Communications Manager for DPP: Grahamstown*

# TAXI DRIVER GETS TWO LIFE SENTENCES FOR RAPE AND MURDER

Phaladi Shuping

**O**n 20 March 2013, a taxi driver from Aberdeen in the Eastern Cape, was handed to two life sentences after being convicted of the rape and murder of a 16-year-old girl by the Richmond Regional Court. The girl was raped and murdered on 13 February 2010.

James Matroos, 29, a taxi driver, transported learners from Middleburg to Richmond to participate in an athletics event that was held in Richmond.

Matroos met the deceased and two of her friends while he was waiting for the learners he transported from Aberdeen. He asked the deceased and her friends to accompany him to town to buy cool drinks. When they got to town, he drove off after the friends of the deceased had disembarked, taking the direction of Hanover with the deceased still in the taxi.

A few hours later, Matroos dropped the deceased off at the Richmond Hospital with serious injuries. She had a fractured skull and was sexually assaulted. He then drove back to the athletic venue to wait for the learners he had transported. He was arrested later that day when he was about to drive his passengers back to Aberdeen.

In court, Matroos stated that while he

was driving back to Richmond, he looked at the seat where the deceased had been sitting but did not see her. He drove back a few metres and found the deceased lying on the side of the road and took her to hospital. He claimed that the deceased fell off the moving taxi. He agreed to have had consensual intercourse with the deceased.

State prosecutor, Advocate Corry Jonkers called forensic pathologist, Dr Sonata Welraven who conducted the post-mortem on the deceased to testify. Dr Welraven said that in her opinion, the genital injuries suffered by the deceased which were very severe, could not have been sustained from consensual intercourse. She said an object could have been pushed into the deceased's genitals because even the cervix was injured. She further stated that the crack on the deceased's head could also not have been sustained from a fall from a moving vehicle because the deceased did not have any scratches on her body and her clothes were not torn which always happen when a person falls from a moving vehicle.

She further stated that the skull injury on the head of the deceased could have been as a result of the head being hit against a wall or with a heavy object while on the ground. She concluded that the severity of the injuries were highly

suggestive of violent rape.

In sentencing the accused, Magistrate Amanda Venter, said that it was the duty of the court to impose fearlessly an appropriate and fair sentence even if the sentence did not satisfy the public.

"The courts are under a duty to send a clear message to the accused, to other potential rapists and to the community: We are determined to protect the equality, dignity and freedom of all women, and we shall show no mercy to those who seek to invade those rights," concluded the magistrate.

## COMMENTARY BY ADV CORRY JONKERS

I was relieved to see this case coming to an end. It was an emotionally draining one. The accused, even after being confronted with overwhelming evidence, stuck to his version that the deceased fell from a moving vehicle. He showed no remorse.

The accused claimed that he had "consensual" intercourse with the deceased but after "falling off from a moving vehicle" he just dropped her off at the hospital. He never bothered to check on her afterwards. He never even bothered to inform the deceased's friends of what happened. He was arrested when he was about to get out of Richmond with his passengers which simply means that he was going to drive back to Aberdeen without telling anyone of what happened to the deceased.

He even failed to point out where the incident took place. He took the police to a place where he said he had this consensual intercourse with the deceased but you could see that nothing happened there. The deceased's belt and watch were found a few metres apart but even this place was several kilometres from the scene pointed out by the accused.

The sentence meted out to the accused really showed that the courts are serious about protecting the rights of women to dignity. 'We cannot tolerate a situation where women cannot walk peacefully on the streets'.



Adv Corry Jonkers

*Phaladi Shuping is the Regional Communications Manager for DPP: Free State*

# 360 YEARS FOR THE ACCUSED: RAPE CASE

Phindi Louw

The alarming increase in the number of rape cases has shocked the nation and definitely calls on all hands on deck. The onus is on society to collectively work in all fronts to fight the scourge of rape. There is great harm in perpetuating the notion that victims of rape brought it upon themselves, taking the blame afterwards.

Driven by a dire need to deliver justice for the victims of these monstrous crimes, Adv Jabulani Mlotshwa, a prosecutor in the office of the Director of Public Prosecutions in Johannesburg obtained a conviction of 360 years for accused one and 266 years for accused two. The duo are illegal immigrants found guilty on 11 counts of rape, 11 counts of kidnapping, eight of housebreaking and robbery plus one of attempted murder.

The modus operandi was to target single women occupying backrooms in the early hours of the morning. The accused would break a door or window pane to gain entrance into the victim's residence, rob them of their belongings, kidnap the victims to an open field, rape them and leave them stranded. Little did they know that each time the victim would report the matter to the police in Tembisa or Rabie Ridge. Despite the non-recognition of the assailants nor tangible evidence at the time, the police would record these matters, take the victims to the hospital to be examined and semen samples would be sent to the forensic lab for DNA analyses. This data was stored since 2008 whilst these monstrous crimes continued till March 2010 when the two accused were arrested.

On 5 March 2012, two sisters were asleep when three men broke into their home, robbed them of their cellphones and cash, took them to an open veld and two of the men raped them whilst the other kept guard. The sisters were left to find their own way back home. On their way back, they reported the matter to the police. The usual procedure was followed to record their case. Upon receiving these bad news their mother rushed to the police station and reported that she had installed a device in one of her daughters'

phones that was programmed in such a way that when the sim card was removed, a notification would be sent immediately to her phone. The number of any simcard inserted on her phone would also be sent. The Hawks were roped in to utilise a device called a Grabber which traced the two numbers for the simcards inserted in the victim's phone since the robbery. The Grabber was able to assist the police in finding the owners of the simcard's addresses.

One of the addresses was that of Jozana Mathabela, accused number one, who then pointed out accused number two, George Sithole. The second address was that of a woman who bought the phone from Mathabela. Both accused were apprehended and the court ordered that DNA samples be retrieved and sent to the lab. The suspects were then linked to all the previously reported cases whose DNA samples and data were kept at the forensic lab.

The challenges in this matter were the burden of proof as there were single witnesses who needed to argue their case against the accused. In one of the samples there was not enough male semen to make a determination. The offences had been committed years back, with some of the witnesses having relocated including members of the SAPS who were either transferred or had resigned from the police force. The state had to prove all allegations and the elements of the crime whilst the defence made no admissions. The state had the mammoth task of proving a chain of evidence that included proof that the sexual assault kits plus semen samples were not tampered with as from the time they were sealed in hospital until they reached the laboratory. Credible witnesses consisted of the police that recorded the matters, took the victims to the hospitals, the medical staff that examined the complainants, the administration staff that received the samples at the lab and the forensic experts that performed the tests and linked the DNA samples to the accused.

"As the NPA, we need to encourage the victims of rape to report these matters

even if they don't know or cannot identify the culprits as specimen and data is stored at the forensic laboratory which is able to link the suspects to certain crimes. Some of the perpetrators will use protection but that shouldn't stop the victims from coming forward. Parents need to educate their children about rape to break the silence. The state relies on the speedy reporting of these incidents and the evidence collected", said Adv Mlotshwa.



Adv Jabulani Mlotshwa

## COMMENTARY BY ADV JABULANI MLOTSHWA

The Criminal Justice System must be commended for the commitment and tireless efforts that serve to prove that if victims, society and government officials work as a collective, greater strides can be achieved. Nothing gives me more pleasure than to see a smile on the victim's face after digesting news of a successful conviction, because then I know the feeling is mutual: they all shed tears and the trauma was for a worthy cause.

*Phindi Louw is the Regional Communications Manager for DPP: Southern Gauteng*



# SERIAL RAPIST GETS FIVE LIFE SENTENCES

Phaladi Shuping

A 34-year-old man was sentenced to five life terms after being convicted of a string of charges that included rapes, robberies and theft by the Free State High Court.

Ephraim Matabane will spend the rest of his life in jail after he was sentenced to five life sentences and an additional 45 years imprisonment by Judge Joseph Mhlambi. The State had charged Matabane with 16 counts of rape and housebreaking with intent to commit rape and robbery. He raped and robbed his victims from 2005 until his arrest in 2011.

Matabane's first victim was a 28-year-old woman from Bloemspruit. The victim was raped and severely assaulted at her house. She was not aware that she was raped until this was established by the doctor.

Matabane broke into the house of his second victim, a 38-year-old woman from Freedom Square, in April 2005. She was found lying in a pool of blood after being raped and severely assaulted. She was also not aware that she has been raped. The accused also stole R250 and music cassettes from her.

In March 2009, Matabane broke into the house of a 22-year-old woman from Freedom Square, raped her and stole her DVD player.

He continued with his rape spree and broke into the house of a 19-year-old woman in Botshabelo in September 2010. The accused first knocked on the door and instructed her to open. She refused and told him that she did not have money. The victim then asked Matabane if he would leave if she gave him her cellular phone. She used a small opening in the door to hand over her cellular phone to the accused who was still standing outside. The accused then forced the door open and raped the victim.

In December 2010, he overpowered a 27-year-old woman along the road from Bloemfontein to Dewetsdorp. He also stole the victim's items and an

undisclosed amount of money.

In the same month, he raped a 29-year-old woman in Dewetsdorp Road. In April 2011, Matabane misrepresented himself as a police officer to a 30-year-old woman at her house in Freedom Square. When she opened the door, she stabbed her in the eye with a screwdriver and sodomised her.

He also raped two women aged 22 and 39 years from Phase 4 and Freedom Square respectively. He robbed them of four cellular phones. Matabane was traced through one of the cellular phones he stole from his victims. He claimed to own a cellular phone repair shop as the reason he was in possession of so many cellular phones. In sentencing Matabane, who had a previous conviction of housebreaking, Judge Mhlambi, said not even that conviction and the suspended sentence he got dissuaded him from a life of crime.



Adv Amanda Bester

"IF YOU LOOK AT THE MANNER IN WHICH THE CRIMES WERE COMMITTED, IT GIVES THE STATE'S CASE STRENGTH...THE MODUS OPERANDI WAS SIMILAR,"

JUDGE MHLAMBI

## COMMENTARY BY ADV AMANDA BESTER

I would really like to commend the SAPS Forensic Laboratory for their effective 'heat report' which assisted us in nailing the accused. This report assisted us in establishing that the DNA found on different victims was of the same person which made the police to realise that these criminal acts were perpetrated by the same person.

The case made me believe that it will always be difficult to work with rape victims because of the trauma they have

suffered. Even though some are more traumatised than the others, it is important to be patient with them.

The accused's modus operandi was the same. He would rape, rob and steal from his victims. He stole money from his victims even though it was not such a lot of money and robbed them of their belongings. He also robbed some of them of their shoes. He would not take just any shoe but only branded shoes like Nike, Adidas and Puma.

*Phaladi Shuping is the Regional Communications Manager for DPP: Free State*

# INTERNATIONAL AWARD FOR LIONEL KROON

Tsepo Ndwalaza

The Port Elizabeth Commercial Crime Court Prosecutor, Lionel Kroon received an international award for being the “Most Outstanding” Anti-Piracy Prosecutor in South Africa. Advocate Kroon received the award from the South African Federation against Copyright Theft (SAFACT) and the Motion Pictures Association for his overall performance in combating piracy and counterfeit goods. On hearing the news, the head of the SCCU, Adv Lawrance Mrwebi had this to say: “As the SCCU we are very proud of the achievement of Adv Kroon and indeed we are delighted by the honour bestowed on him. This is testimony to the effect that the SCCU is doing something right and this acknowledgement by SAFACT will help to boost our efforts and contribution in the fight to combat piracy as part of broader efforts to fight serious complex and organised commercial crime”.

Khasho spoke to Advocate Kroon to share insight on his achievement.

## **T**ell us, who is Lionel Kroon?

I am 44 years old and have resided in Port Elizabeth my whole working life.

## **Tell us briefly about your work background and qualifications.**

I have a B.Comm, an LL.B degree and a Certificate in Advanced Taxation. I am an admitted Attorney. My career started in 1991 when I took up a position as a prosecutor at the Port Elizabeth office immediately after completing my degrees. I have been stationed in Port Elizabeth my whole working life except for a 2 ½ year period when I was stationed in Uitenhage and a year when I was performing national service. In 2004 I joined the SCCU in Port Elizabeth where I am now a senior public prosecutor.

## **How long have you been with the NPA?**

22 years now.

## **Tell us your role as a prosecutor in the SCCU and how it links up with other units in the NPA.**

The SCCU is a unit within the NPA which specialises in the prosecution of complex commercial crime. As a prosecutor in the SCCU, I deal with a whole range of commerce related cases, common law and statutory offences of which the anti-piracy prosecutions (contraventions of either the Copyright Act 98 of 1978 and/or the Counterfeit Goods Act 37 of 1997) form a part. To date, I have been successful in 41 such anti-piracy prosecutions. The SCCU refers many cases to the AFU as there is often a potential to restrain and later confiscate the assets of the offender which he acquired as a result of criminal activity.

## **What are the challenges that you face in your work on a daily basis?**

In order to perform well I need to rely on many other role players over which I have no control. When these other role players do not perform their functions properly, I experience high levels of frustration. For example, an accused or his attorney or a court official may be absent from court on a trial date, leading to a postponement. Sometimes charge sheets are misfiled or court proceedings are not recorded. As far as anti-piracy cases in particular are concerned there is the added problem of the scarcity of foreign language interpreters. Long delays are also experienced in the finalisation of investigations due to the fact that some investigators lack the necessary skills to investigate while others have heavy case loads.

## **What does this award mean to you as a person and how will it impact on your work with other role players?**

I am thrilled that the Motion Picture Association and SAFACT decided to honour me in this way. I will continue to strive to provide the best service possible to other role players.

## **Do you believe that enough is being done about the fight against piracy in this country?**

No. Piracy has a negative impact on South Africa's economy. The general public needs to be made aware of this because there is a perception that piracy is a victimless crime. The public should also be discouraged from purchasing pirated goods because, by so doing, they create a market wherein dealers in pirated goods are allowed to flourish.

## **What does anti-piracy entail and do ordinary people understand its impact?**



Advocate Lionel Kroon from SCCU PE, receiving his award from SAFACT CEO Mr Guldenpfennig.

It entails prosecuting offenders who illegally deal in goods (such as films, books, clothing, household products etc.) in respect of which an intellectual property right (such as copyright or a trade mark) has been infringed.

## **Any case(s) that you can single out that you believe gave you a hard time while dealing with it?**

Yes, the case of S v Singh in 2011 which focused on pirated Microsoft products.

## **What does this case mean to the NPA?**

S v Singh was significant because in this case the NPA made the accused repay R165, 867 to the victims of his crimes.

## **Do you have a message for your NPA colleagues?**

If the investigation is done properly and you understand the legislation and you are passionate about your work you will get a conviction!

*Tsepo Ndwalaza is the Regional Communications Manager for DPP: Grahamstown*



# KNOW YOUR CORPORATE MANAGERS: OTHERWISE KNOWN AS DIRECTORS OF ADMINISTRATION

Khasho spoke to some of them in order to enlighten readers about this important corporate services function.

Frank Lesenyego

## Moses Rantao - DPP: North West

### How can you explain the role and function of Corporate Services in the NPA?

It is the support services of the National Corporate Services, a sub-programme that provides governance and corporate support services in terms of Finance, Human Resources, Communications, Supply Chain Management, Integrity Management Unit and Risk Management of the NPA to the core function of the NPA.

### Tell us about the composition of Corporate Services in your office.

The support services structure in the North West is headed by the Director-Administration. He then is supported by the management team comprised of Advanced Deputy Manager, Senior Specialist Enterprise, Security and Risk Manager and Regional Communications Manager. As a Director-Administration I'm responsible for efficient and effective running of the administration services within the DPP, Chief Prosecutor - Mmabatho Cluster and Chief Prosecutor - Odi Cluster.

### What are your experiences in the Corporate Services, challenges and lessons learned?

My experience within NPA Corporate Services is that there is inadequate capacity and skills to achieve set objectives outlined by our strategy.

In my view, challenges affecting service delivery are mostly on the retention of skills and appropriate rewarding of good performance. Capacity and budgetary constraints remain our major challenge that does not just affect us in the DPP office but the entire organisation. This calls for us to work smarter and more

efficiently.

### What is the strategic role of a Corporate Manager?

The role of a Corporate Manager (Director-Administration) is informed fundamentally by the vision of the country which is "better life for all" and cascade to the vision of NPA which is justice in the society so that people can live in freedom and security.

### The duties are as follows:

- Strategic Management of Corporate Services within the province including general administrative support functions to the DPP office
- Operations Management e.g. overseeing and controlling all work processes within Corporate Services
- Overall management of Human

Resources Management and Development component at provincial level

- Provision of continuous feedback on all matters investigated to the relevant authorities as and when required
- Consolidation of the monthly Corporate Services report

### What value do you add to prosecutions?

I assist with the day to day needs of prosecutors and advocates that are in my DPP jurisdiction. I also give guidance on all compliance matters to avoid audit queries that put the organisation in bad light.

### What attributes should a Corporate Manager have?

Sufficient understanding of corporate governance and high levels of integrity.



Moses Rantao

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

# Lemmer Ludwick - DPP: Free State

Phaladi Shuping

## When did you join the NPA?

I joined the NPA on 1 November 2001, DPP Bloemfontein office. I was previously working at the regional Office Dept of Justice as Assistant Director: Finance.

## Briefly, what did you study?

National Diploma: Government Finance. I am currently doing 3rd year B Compt with Unisa.

## As Director: Administration, what are your daily duties?

My role is diverse with various job functions that must be performed. I give strategic and operational support to the DPP, and the personnel in the Free State region. I am also responsible for the management of Corporate Services component in the region e.g., managing of budget and finance, fleet and supply chain, HR issues, facilities management, document management and docket management. Ensuring compliance with legislative prescripts, policies and

procedures, is among the things I do. Approval of daily requests for travel and accommodation is also my responsibility, as well as approval of leave forms and S&T claims on Persal. The SPP's and prosecutors also make daily enquiries regarding salaries or leave credits for which I'm responsible.

## What is the most important attribute needed to do your job?

Sufficient knowledge on the budget process within Government as well as acts, policies and procedures for Government as well as in the NPA.

## What challenges do you typically face in your position?

Currently the challenge regarding the budget is the most problematic as it is impacting on the workflow of the region. The vacancies cannot be filled due to the unavailability of funds. This means that there are more prosecutors that are travelling to courts, especially to the one man stations. This increase in travel also affects the goods and services budget as the S&T expenditure is increasing.

There are currently four vacancies, three of which are in the docket management section in the Corporate Services division and that is impacting on service delivery.

## Most of your clients are prosecutors. What value do you add to prosecutions?

The DPP advocates and prosecutors need resources to do their daily duties. The Corporate services division is assisting prosecutors daily with resources needed for their daily duties, e.g. arranging vehicles and accommodation for circuit / periodical courts.

Being there on a daily basis for prosecutors that make enquiries regarding e.g., progress on a decisions, salaries and HR related issues.

## What would you do if you were appointed DPP for one day?

I will not do anything strategically or operationally different than what the DPP is doing. I will emphasize to advocates and prosecutors to ensure that the administrative part of their work also gets attention. They seem to leave the administrative work for last and then problems are experienced like late receipt of leave forms, which can lead to audit queries.

## Do you have any message of encouragement for the rest of the organisation?

I know that 2012/2013 financial year ended with some very difficult circumstances as there were huge budget constraints. The difficulties seem to be with us during 2013 as well as the budget allocation for goods and services were cut and the divisions have lesser funds this financial year as in the previous year. We must however not see this as a difficulty but as a challenge to increase our performance with the limited resources.

We are all in the same boat so stop complaining and work together offering support in the challenging environment.



Lemmer Ludwick

*Phaladi Shuping is the Regional Communications Manager for DPP: Free State*



# FINANCIAL OPERATIONS

Sibongile Mogale

**F**inancial Operations is a unit within Finance and Procurement. It is led by the Senior Manager, Matshidiso Morakile.

Financial Operations comprises of three components, namely:

- Payroll
- Payments and Donor Funding
- Banking

## Payroll

**This component deals with:**

Tax related issues affecting NPA officials;

Payment of leave gratuities (leave days payable to officials after resignations);

Financial/suspense accounts related to salaries;

Salary related allowances and deductions e.g., overtime, standby allowances, garnishee orders and implementing changes in banking details of officials.

It must be noted that the overtime is decentralised. Regional offices can also process overtime to ease off bottlenecks at Head Office.

Day-to-day activities of the payroll component are managed by Jenny Coertzen and Willy Mahlangu.

## Payments and Donor Funding

The payment and donor funding component is led by Wandisa Blekie, responsible for payment of all supplier invoices and Subsistence & Travel (S&T) advances. Some of these claims are paid in regional offices because this function is also decentralised.

Donor funding entails the management of all donor funds received by the NPA and this function is also managed by Blekie.

## Banking

**The banking component ensures that:**

All monies coming in and out of the NPA are accounted for;

Petty cash and revenue is well managed in Head Office and in regional offices;

Funds are requested and received monthly and on time, from the Department of Justice and Constitutional Development;

National Treasury reports are submitted on time.

The banking component is under the reign of Ngokoana Taueatsoala.

## Challenges

One of the main challenges faced by the Finance Operations unit is to ensure that they do not get audit findings. This ideal situation can only be attained when NPA officials comply with the finance and personnel related prescripts and policies, Treasury Regulations and Public Finance Management Act.

For example, officials must ensure that all invoices received by the NPA are paid within 30 days of receipt as required by the Treasury Regulations and PFMA.

In cases where a finding is raised, the unit has a duty to provide adequate and timely response.



Front row: Wandisa Blekie and Matshidiso Morakile  
Back row: Willy Mahlangu and Ngokoana Taueatsoala

# MOTIVATIONAL FLOATING TROPHY PROJECT LAUNCHED

Luxolo Tyali

In a bid to ensure a meteoric improvement in performance, the DPP Mthatha's Butterworth Cluster, with the South African Police Service (SAPS) detectives units in that area, launched an ambitious project aimed at creating healthy competition within the cluster.

The initiative, a first of its kind, sees the best performing district and regional court each receiving a floating trophy to keep for a month. The detectives units that work with the winning courts also receive their floating trophies.

According to Butterworth Cluster regional court Senior Public Prosecutor, Franz Dlamini, the criteria used to choose the winner is purely based on performance regarding the finalisation of cases and conviction rate.

SAPS detectives also have their criteria that are aligned to that of the court performance. "The aim is to ensure that all the parties involved in building and

presenting the state's case pull towards one goal and have the appreciation of one another's targets," explained Dlamini.

The launch, in February, attracted members of the public, Branch Commanders from all police stations servicing the Butterworth Cluster, Prosecutors, Magistrates and Legal Aid South Africa, as well as Correctional Services officials.

Addressing the packed Butterworth Magistrate's Court, DPP Mthatha Adv Barry Madolo expressed his approval of the initiative. He added that should the project prove successful it would be expanded to the whole region.

"Encouragement of good competitive spirit and recognition of those who are contributing towards ensuring that the ultimate objective of delivering justice to the society is one of the things that are needed if we are to win the fight against crime," said Adv Madolo.

Speaking on behalf of the Provincial Police Commissioner, Brigadier Garry McClarren pledged the commitment of SAPS provincial leadership to the project.

"We are fully behind this excellent idea and feel that it is the much needed catalyst towards defeating crime in our area," he said.

The first winners of the trophies, for January, were Butterworth district and Willowvale Regional Courts and they were presented the trophies during the launch.

Butterworth has however since lost the trophy to Sterkspruit, while Tsomo has taken over from Willowvale.

Refusing to let the departmental budgetary challenges dampen their efforts, the funds for buying the trophies and hosting the launch came from the prosecutors and detectives' own pockets.



Butterworth District Court Control Prosecutor Ms. Thabisa Mpimilashe receives the floating trophy from DPP: Adv Barry Madolo



Willowvale Regional Court Control Prosecutor Bekisisa Mpapela receives the floating trophy from DPP: Adv Barry Madolo

# PILOTING THE COFFEE SHOP ETHICS FORUM

Cynthia Mogola and Londiwe Dlomo

In an effort to promote ethics in the workplace, the NPA coffee shop ethics forum was established in order to stimulate ethics conversations on topical issues that impact on culture in society and the workplace.

On 20 March, the NPA Coffee Shop Ethics Forum which is facilitated by the Integrity Management Unit (IMU) was piloted in Pretoria Head Office.

The theme for the session was “The power of communication: stop asking and start listening”.

The synopsis for discussion was:

For most of us, it is difficult to keep quiet and refrain from asking questions, since we are taught that expressing interest in someone’s conversation is a commendable quality. However we know that keeping quiet demands extra energy to suppress and process “the lack of autonomy you might experience, since the other persons are making the choices” in the conversation. Questions can be an expression of interest and generosity, and sometimes questions, even seemingly benevolent inquiries can be a subtle

source of control.

In his opening statement, Mokotedi, Executive Manager IMU, stressed that the forum should be seen as a free space for all employees to express their views and opinions in all the deliberations, irrespective of their title within the organisation.

The hostess, Gugu Memela stimulated the discussions through a variety of probing questions and the participants took turns in sharing their thoughts and experiences with the group. The outcomes of the sessions included acknowledgement that in today’s society most people do not listen, to themselves nor to other people and they don’t always take time to reflect on the contexts that they find themselves in, resulting in intolerance, misunderstandings and prejudices. Many of the barriers to listening were also explored by the group.

The topic on ‘Trust’ drew overwhelming response from participants as a result it had to be rolled over for the next gathering.

The discussions were energetic and

lively. Different people were heard and different examples and experiences were related.

A few questions that resonated with everyone can be mentioned:

What makes you get up in the morning and do what you do? As a person you have to have inspiration and a little motivation.

What can we do differently to create a sense of trust amongst our people?

What can one do to help create trust amongst one’s immediate environment?

As a parting shot, the employees of the organisation were encouraged to be united. It was stressed that everyone has a responsibility to build trust in an organisation. “While you’re building trust, have hope that the other person will be willing to share with you”, it was said.

These sessions are becoming increasingly popular, the attendance was good from the first meeting and they are gaining strength all the time.



NPA officials participating in discussions

# NPA EVENTS

## NPA PARTICIPATES IN MEC DRUG AWARENESS EVENT IN CHATSWORTH

Natasha Ramkisson

The MEC for Social Development, Weziwe Thusi, hosted an event in Chatsworth, Durban in early February to create awareness about the severe drug problem in the area. The event began with a march through the community in which the MEC, religious leaders as well as community members took part. The march ended at a soccer field that became the site for the formal program.

The NPA together with other government departments such as Correctional Services, Department of Agriculture, Department of Transport, Department for Community Safety and Liaison and the South African Police Services (SAPS) showed their support by attending this event and adding to the voices against substance abuse. There were also several non-profit organisations from the local

and surrounding areas who participated in the initiative.

According to statistics from the Department of Social Development, there were 1294 reported cases of drug related crimes in the year 2011/12. The common message from all speakers was that the community needs to unite against the scourge of substance abuse as other violent crimes such as rape, theft and murder often stem from the individual being under the influence of drugs or alcohol.

MEC Thusi commented on the high statistics saying that the people in the province needed to act fast before the drug crisis had spiraled out of control. She made mention of the drug programme that is being rolled out in schools to deal with children who bring drugs and

alcohol into the learning environment.

The NPA's role at this event was to set up an exhibition and to provide information to community members about the services that the NPA offer. Awareness was also created about the Thuthuzela Care Centre (TCC) at the RK Khan Hospital in Chatsworth.

In her closing remarks, MEC Thusi reminded parents that they have a responsibility to be present in the lives of their children. She said if this was done, children would turn to their parents in times of pressure and stress instead of drugs. She said, "If indeed it is true that children learn as they live, then parents and adults need to live accountably and responsibly."



KZN MEC for Social Development, Mrs Weziwe Thusi



Children and community members participating in the parade

## NPA MAKING IMPACT IN SCHOOLS

Tsepo Ndwalaza

On 6 March 2013 the NPA took part in a schools programme which was held at the Diocesan School for Girls in Grahamstown. This is an annual event where all the grade 12 learners from all high schools in the Grahamstown area are invited for career guidance. The NPA was given this rare opportunity and used it effectively.

On the day, the NPA team had the opportunity of interacting with learners from the following schools: Benjamin Mahlasela High School, Diocesan School for Girls High School, Gadra

Matric School, Graham College, Kuhliso Daniels High School, Nombulelo High School, Ntsika High School, Nathaniel Nyaluza High School, Mary Waters High School, PJ Olivier High School, Victoria Grey High School and St Andrews College.

Representing the NPA was advocate Zukile Mdolomba from the DPP Grahamstown office. He delivered a number of presentations to the various groups of learners. The event started at 14h00 and continued until 16h30 with the NPA having five sessions with

learners from different schools. Advocate Mdolomba spoke passionately about the role of the NPA in the criminal justice system. He educated the learners about the role of a prosecutor in a court of law. He also went on to inform learners about the dangers of involving themselves in criminal activities that would catch up with them later in life.

Most interestingly, he gave them more information on how to become a prosecutor and what attributes are needed to make it in this career. The students were really interested in these topics.



Pupils looking excited



Pupils from various schools participating

## NPA LECTURES AT THE RHODES UNIVERSITY IN GRAHAMSTOWN

On 12 and 19 March 2013, the Deputy Director of Public Prosecutions, Advocate Johan Bezuidenhout based at the Grahamstown office gave two lectures to law students at Rhodes University.

The lectures were requested by

Advocate Jock McConnachie of the Rhodes Law Faculty and Adv Bezuidenhout volunteered to assist with delivering the lectures himself. The first lecture was on Criminal Procedure B, on the practical application of Plea & Sentence Bargaining (s105A of the Criminal Procedure Act) and the

second lecture which took place on 19 March dealt with the Child Justice Act. During the lecture Adv Bezuidenhout emphasised the importance of students understanding these acts so that they could apply them better when they were in the field practising. The students were informed upfront that they were

# NDABEZITHA IMBIZO

The SOCA Unit held a Ndabezitha Imbizo event at the Ncumisa Kondlo Hall in Peddie on 8 March 2013. The theme of the event was 'men taking a lead against domestic violence'. A number of key note speakers shared the stage, addressing members of the community about issues relating to domestic violence.

Invited to the event were members of the community who came in large numbers including traditional leaders, SAPS, DOJ & CD, representatives from the Thuthuzela Care Centres and community based organisation fighting against the abuse of women and children in the community.

Advocate Mkhwane, acting head of SOCA in the Eastern Cape gave the gathering food for thought explaining the purpose and the objectives of the Izimbizo. The police also addressed the gathering on their role in domestic violence cases. The traditional leader of the area, Nkosi Ngwekazi addressed the gathering, informing them that he was working hard in his capacity as leader to ensure that men are educated about their roles in their communities. He said he was working very closely with the police to ensure that the crimes against women and children are minimised.

Advocate Mabote from Pretoria, HQ

addressed the gathering about the history of the Ndabezitha Izimbizo and how they started and what they seek to achieve in the broader community. Advocate Buyi Nkala, also from SOCA Unit Eastern Cape, spoke extensively on how these issues can be prevented as communities and how the NPA can assist as a member of the criminal justice cluster and the way forward.

A question and answer session followed and the community engaged the members of the panel about various issues and the traditional leaders were there to ensure that issues relating to them were answered.



Community members gathered at the Imbizo



Dignitaries at the Imbizo

*continued from page 16*

free to ask questions when they did not understand. Adv Bezuidenhout introduced the prosecutions team before the start of the lectures.

The enthusiasm and excitement shown by the students during these lectures was encouraging as one could feel that they valued the knowledge they were gaining from these experienced legal eagles. What was also interesting was that Adv Bezuidenhout felt comfortable and gave his best in explaining every

aspect during his lectures. It was also interesting to note that most of the students understood the role of the NPA in a court of law.

After the first lecture on 12 March a couple of students, Ms Crystal Mohlaba and Ms Phuti Morolong who are 4th year LLB students could not hide their excitement when they said they knew what they wanted to do after graduation which would be to join the NPA and to contribute to bringing justice to our

societies.

The NPA is very excited to have been part of these sessions and believes that these efforts will contribute towards ensuring that the NPA and Institutions of higher learning work together in producing and sharing information that is beneficial for the future of the country's law graduates.



# NPA INVITED TO THE RHODES LAW MARKET DAY

The annual Rhodes Law Market day took place on 27 February 2013 at the Rhodes Campus in Grahamstown. Many law firms graced the event with their presence and the NPA was part of the organisations that availed themselves on the day.

Mrs Harriett Ackermann, a Senior State Advocate and a tutor from East London in the Aspirant Prosecutor Programme was at the NPA exhibiting stall to share information with the students.

The event was opened by the Rhodes Law Society representatives and the Dean of the Faculty of Law, Professor Campbell gave a speech thanking all organisations present and wished them an enjoyable day at the campus.

The NPA representatives at the exhibiting stall were kept very busy by the students who showed a lot of interests on how the NPA works.

Final year students were expected to make enquiries but surprisingly there were even second and third year students who wanted to know about the NPA

and its role in the justice system. Career brochures were distributed and more information was provided about the organisation and the various units within the NPA.

The NPA was mentioned among the organisations that have contributed a lot to the success of the Rhodes Law Day because of its support over the years.



Adv Harriett Ackermann with students from the Rhodes University

*Tsepo Ndwalaza is the Regional Communications Manager for DPP: Grahamstown*

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

### EDITOR:

Nomilo Mpondo  
NPA Communications

### EDITORIAL MANAGEMENT:

Bulelwa Makeke

### PUBLISHED FOR THE NPA BY:

Buka Publications CC  
[www.bukapublications.com](http://www.bukapublications.com)

Send your news and letters to  
**[khasho@npa.gov.za](mailto:khasho@npa.gov.za)**

or

fax your stories and information to

**012 843 2120**

