

Police welcome five life terms for serial rapist

ELFAS TORERAI

NORTH West police commissioner Lt-Gen Baile Motswenyane welcomed the five life terms and an additional three years handed down to a man convicted of a series of rape cases in Rustenburg.

The accused, Kgomotso Justice Molotsi, 35, was sentenced by the Rustenburg Regional Court for offences he committed from December 2010 to April 2013.

Molotsi is said to have preyed on victims aged between 16 and 29 around Boitekong and Rustenburg.

Provincial police spokesperson Lt-Col Pelonomi Makau said: "In one of the incidents, on December 19, 2010, three cousins between the ages of 16 and 29 were on their way home when the accused caught and dragged them to the nearby bushes where he raped them repeatedly. The accused was sentenced to three life imprisonments for eight counts of rape," she said.

The accused raped a 24-year-old woman in Boitekong's Extension 2 two days later.

"He was also sentenced to life imprisonment for two counts of rape after he raped a 27-year-old woman on October 1, 2013," Makau said.

The court also sentenced Molotsi to three years imprisonment for a sexual assault case that was committed on April 20, 2013.

"It was established during the investigations that the accused would waylay victims on their way home at night. He then attacked and raped them in the bushes while threatening to kill them with a knife. The accused was unknown to all the victims," Makau said.

Motswenyane applauded the Rustenburg Family Violence, Child Protection and Sexual Offences Units (FCS) for securing convictions and the hefty sentences.

"She said the sentences would send a strong message that those who commit crimes will languish in jail.

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Police embark on crime clean-up campaign

TISETSO MANOKO

POLICE embarked on a clean-up operation in the Frances Baard district to combat crime.

Police spokesperson Capt Sergio Kock said the operation was a success.

"On Friday, police raided a house in Hartswater and arrested two men aged 28 and 29 for dealing in drugs. Rock and tik with a value of R10 000 was found on the premises.

"Three other male suspects were arrested for a break-in at a butchery in Jan Kempdorp," he said.

Kock said the police also found several stolen items such as meat pans, weighing

scales and other goods in the house.

"The suspects will appear in court soon. Three shopping bags of dagga with a street value of R3 000 were also found in the veld in a residential area in Warrenton but no suspects were arrested in this regard.

He said this campaign was not a once-off and they would continue across the province without notice.

"These operations will be held on a continuous basis to ensure that criminals are brought to book and that no immunity is granted to those who do not want to stay within the ambit of the law," he said.

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