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Man on parole arrested for housebreaking

ELFAS TORERAI

A 35 YEAR-OLD man, who is on parole, has again fallen foul of the law after he was arrested for burglary.

The accused, Boitumelo Petrus Mokgatla, from the Tigane township near Hartbeesfontein appeared in the Ventersdorp Magistrate's Court this week on charges of housebreaking and theft, three counts of attempted murder and the illegal possession of a firearm and ammunition.

North West police spokesperson Lt-Col Pelonomi Makau said Mokgatla's brush with the law came after he burgled a house on a farm in Tweelingfontein near Ventersdorp on Sunday.

"It is alleged that the accused entered a farmer's house in the evening on the said day. By then, the farmer and his wife had visited their son who stays not far from their farm.

"According to information, the farmer and his family were sitting at his son's place when

they noticed that there was someone inside their own house. They immediately alerted the police and neighbouring farmers," Makau said. Makau said police responded swiftly and surrounded the farm house.

"On noticing the presence of the police, the accused allegedly fired shots through the window but no one was injured in the process. Police and hostage negotiators managed to get inside the house and the accused handed himself over to the police."

Makau said police managed to recover stolen items.

"Two firearms and ammunition which are suspected to have been stolen from the house were found in his possession. Preliminary investigations revealed that the accused was on parole at the time of his arrest.

"He was sentenced in 2011 to 10 years imprisonment for house breaking."

The accused will appear in court again on Tuesday for a formal bail application.

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05/05/17 TNA Pg 1
Fraudster jailed
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A 54-YEAR-OLD woman was sentenced to eight years in jail after she was found to have defrauded a milling company of R2m.

Marietjie van der Walt was employed as a financial clerk at the milling company.

The sentence does not have the option of a fine, meaning the accused will have to serve time.

North West provincial head of the Hawks, Maj-Gen Linda Mbana said: "The accused was employed at the milling company in Leeudoringstad as a financial clerk and her responsibilities included receiving money and issuing receipts and invoices. A thorough investigation was conducted by the Hawks which revealed that between 2014 and 2015, she committed fraud by issuing fictitious credit notes and instead kept the money for herself."

Mbana welcomed the conviction and applauded the investigation team for making sure crime was punished.

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