

# Suspect linked to 18 other cases

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THE arrest of a 29-year-old man for assault opened a floodgate of other crimes the man had committed in and around the Rustenburg area over the past seven years.

Sipho Thomas Mdiniso was recently nabbed for assault with intent to cause grievous bodily harm.

Provincial police spokesperson Brig Sabata Mokgwabone said the efficient utilisation of resources in the investigation paid off when the accused was linked to about 18 other serious offences.

"At the time of the linkage, the accused was in detention for a case of assault with intent to cause grievous bodily harm. As part of the investigation and through the utilisation of investigative aids, the family violence, child protection and sexual offences unit managed to link the accused to 18 other offences," Mokgwabone said. "The crimes include seven rapes, eight house robberies and rapes, one murder, one theft of a motor vehicle and one common robbery."

He said the offences were committed between 2010 and 2016 in Boitekong and Tlhabane.

"The suspect appeared in the Rustenburg Magistrate's Court but the case was postponed to Tuesday, September 19 for the centralisation of the cases."

North West police commissioner Lt-Gen Baile Motswenyane commended the police officers for the utilisation of investigation aids at their disposal to ensure that a serial offender was arrested.

Motswenyane said the arrest would serve as a warning that the police would leave no stone unturned in investigations.

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