

# Convicted serial rapist gets two life terms

**RUSTENBURG HERALD - RUSTENBURG - The Bafokeng Regional Court sitting in Tlhabane has sentenced a 30-year-old serial rapist to two life terms and an additional 28 year imprisonment on Wednesday (15 June).**

According to Lt/Col Amanda Funani, North West police spokesperson, the sentences emanated from three separate incidents wherein victims were raped and robbed of their cell phones and clothes. In the first incident, a 15-year-old girl was with her boyfriend and walking to a nearby shop at Pitso Section in Phokeng outside Rustenburg at about 20:00 on Tuesday, 5 January 2021, when approached by the convict. The latter chased and forced the boyfriend to leave by throwing stones at him. The girl was consequently taken to the nearby bushes and raped. On her way back home after escaping, the girl met her boyfriend and her aunt who took her to Phokeng police station to lay charges of rape and common robbery. In the second incident at about 19:00 on Wednesday evening, 13 January 2021, a 22-year-old woman was from her aunt's place at Kotokoto Section, Phokeng and going back to her residential place at Lenatong Section when the convict approached her and volunteered to accompany her as he was also going to the same area. They were walking and about to cross the bridge when the accused grabbed and dragged the woman to the nearby bushes and raped her. He then robbed her of her cell phone and clothes before fleeing from the scene. The matter was reported to the police for investigation. In the third incident which

occurred 30 minutes after the second one at Lemenong Section, the convict met and approached a 14-year-old minor who was on her way home. He wanted to know if she was not afraid of walking alone and ultimately dragged her to the bushes and raped her.

Thereafter, he robbed her of her cell phone and clothes. Subsequent to the incident, the victim ran to Phokeng police station where she reported the incident and also found the 22-year-old woman reporting a rape case and common robbery. Consequently, the police and security officers with assistance of members of the community, searched for the convict at Lenatong Section where he was

found in possession of the victims' clothes. He was arrested and eventually identified by the 15-year-old victim which also he raped on Tuesday, 5 January 2021. The accused was finally sentenced to two life terms for two counts of rape. He was further handed 20 years imprisonment for another rape and four years for each of two counts of common robbery.

## Functional NW municipalities "a dream"

**RUSTENBURG HERALD - RUSTENBURG - "Without political will and if the situation remains the same as it is now, the chance of the municipalities becoming functional, is just a dream," the Chairman of the North West Chamber of Commerce and Industry (NWCOCI), Gideon Ralepeli, said in a statement earlier this week.**

Reacting to the report by the Auditor General, Ralepeli, wanted to know what the financial compliment of the staff in municipalities are doing when they have spent millions on consultants during the 2020/21 financial year. "We have suggested that skills audits need to be done in all municipalities. Then we can train the people responsible to start doing the work and taking responsibility for their jobs and what they are supposed to be doing. This is truly an absolute waste of taxpayers' money", he said. "Some municipalities have contractors doing their monthly accounts, but even then, it is not properly or regularly done - like in the case of Ditsobotla," he said.

Ralepeli further said that he cannot understand how municipalities can do budgets if they do not even know what their income history is and what they expect will be the income in the future. He added that it is very clear to them as the NWCOCI that that nobody takes any responsibility and the

said that the municipalities in the North West province continue to record disclaimer audit opinions whilst the lack of service delivery and performance deteriorate. Maluleke has blamed this on leadership instability, which she says is continuing to hamper the municipalities and service delivery.

"There seems to be a culture of tolerating lawlessness across municipalities, with a lack of consequences at these municipalities. Municipalities are not preparing to deliver services to communities and that is detrimental to these communities which are supposed to be served," Maluleke said.

According to the CEO of the NWCOCI, André Coertzen, it is very clear that many municipalities continue to adopt unfunded budgets and spent money which they don't have. "I cannot understand this attitude that they have. It is like a pie in the sky approach. Nothing is concrete," Coertzen said. "Where have you seen a company doing a budget

without proper historical facts and figures and taking all factors of the current economy into consideration?" he asked. "There is too much political interference in local government affairs by politicians. Also some of the councillors uses the budgets and the tender system as cash cows," he added.

"Monies in Ditsobotla, for example, are being used for all things else but service delivery, infrastructure or any other important matter". He also added that after nearly eight months since the local government elections were held and a new council elected, Ditsobotla, one of the most dysfunctional municipalities in the North West, has not had a proper meeting to discuss and plan critical issues. Only motions of no-confidence and hiring and firing was entertained. "Nearly another year wasted by the new council," he said. Coertzen also said that in the North West, where politicians interfere, huge disciplinary problems exists with people being suspended left, right and centre without following due processes and non-qualified, inexperienced people being appointment as senior managers and as directors.

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political will to make changes, how hard they might seem to be, does not exist. Whilst addressing Members of Parliament (MPs) the Auditor-General, Tsakani Maluleke

## Don't fall for phone trick

**RUSTENBURG HERALD - RUSTENBURG - Charlatans and outright thugs will never run out of ideas to rob people of their money or possessions - especially motorists.**

The latest scheme in Rustenburg is a cell phone (in the ready mode with light activated at night) that motorists will notice in the middle of the street or road while driving. Don't be excited and don't even dare to stop to pick up the phone - this is a scam by unscrupulous people to rob you and possibly to steal your car. Rather look around the area and you will probably notice some people and another vehicle parked not too far away from the "lost" cell phone. These people are simply waiting for you to stop to attack you and who knows what will happen to you - especially after hours or late at night. Be extremely vigilant and don't worry about something such as "lost phones" or similar. No phone is worth losing your life or you vehicle for.



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**NOTICE OF AN ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT PROCESS**  
 In terms of the National Environmental Management Act (NEMA), 1998 (Act 107 of 1998) as amended and the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations of 2014 as amended, a Scoping Report and Environmental Impact Report (EIR) with application will be submitted to the Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment (DFFE), as the competent authority. Notification is hereby given to all Interested and Affected Parties in terms of Sections 39 to 44 of GNR982 as amended in GNR326, that a Scoping and EIR will be submitted to the competent authority (DFFE) to apply for environmental authorization for the Proposed township establishment on Remainder of Portion 43 of the farm Waterval 306JQ and Portion 7 of the farm Boschdal 309JQ (adjoining), Rustenburg Local Municipality, North West Province.

**Application:** Proposed township establishment on Remainder of Portion 43 of the farm Waterval 306JQ and Portion 7 of the farm Boschdal 309JQ (adjoining), Rustenburg Local Municipality, North West Province.


**Locality:** Portion 43 of the farm Waterval 306JQ and Portion 7 of the farm Boschdal 309JQ (adjoining), Rustenburg Local Municipality, North West Province.

**Applicant:** Schoongezigt Rustenburg Developers (Pty) Ltd

**Nature:** The property of nearly 60ha in size is planned for residential development. Listed activities requiring environmental authorization include Listing 1, Activity 30 due to location in the Magaliesberg Biosphere Core; Listing 2, Activity 15 due to clearance of more than 20ha of vegetation and Listing 3, Activity 4 for roads, Activity 12 for the clearance of vegetation and Activity 15 for transformation of land. To register as an Interested and Affected Party or to obtain further information regarding the project, contact HydroScience on or before **30 September 2022** via fax or email at:

**HydroScience**  
 Person: Paulette Jacobs  
 Tel: 082 850 5482  
 Fax: 086 692 8820  
 E-mail: paulette@hydroscience.co.za

Please submit any issues of concern or interest in the matter, in writing, on or before 30 September 2022 by fax or email to the contact person listed above. The draft Scoping report will be available for public review from 1 - 30 September 2022 through electronic channels to registered Interested and Affected Parties requesting such. A hard copy would be available in the Rustenburg Public Library in Heystek Street, Rustenburg, contactable on 014 590 3704. All registered interested and affected parties will also be provided with access to the EIR for review before its submission to the DFFE for decision.



## Success: 24 arrested for copper cable theft

**RUSTENBURG HERALD - RUSTENBURG - The fight against tampering with, and damaging of, essential infrastructure gained success when a joint operation by security officers, Crime Intelligence and Rustenburg Visible Policing resulted in the arrest of 24 suspects and discovery of approximately two tons of copper cables which were stolen at the Samancor ventilation shaft along the R104 road in the early hours of Monday (20 June).**

According to information received from Brig Sabata Mokgwabone, North West police spokesperson, security officers in Rustenburg spotted a silver double cab Nissan Hardbody V8 vehicle turning onto the R104 road in the vicinity of the ventilation shaft near a townhouse complex. Subsequently, a group of men was seen running in the bushes while firing shots in the direction of the security personnel who called for backup from the police. As a result, a number of suspects were arrested in the bushes and in a hole next to the ventilation shaft while copper cables worth R750 000.00 were seized. All the suspects aged between 18 and 45 were expected to appear before the Rustenburg Magistrates' Court on Wednesday (22 June), facing a charge of tampering with essential infrastructure. Investigation into the matter continues.

The North West Provincial Commissioner, Lieutenant General Sello Kwena lauded the private security company's personnel and all South African Police Service (SAPS) members for their collaboration that led to the success.



**Rustenburg Herald**

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