

# LAW CATCHES UP WITH RAPIST

**Tlhabane/ Rustenburg** – A good working relationship between Rustenburg police investigators and court prosecutors played a significant role in making sure that a man found guilty of raping four women in 2014 was put behind bars for a long time. Pascal Matsile will spend at least 25 years in jail after Bafokeng Regional Court magistrate Mogotha Mametse found him guilty on 10 counts of rape and two counts of robbery. Overwhelming evidence produced in court revealed that the 30-year old Matsile was responsible for raping the four victims between Friday 21 March 2014 and the following day. The state successfully proved that on the two days in question, the victims were repeatedly raped by Matsile at a park in Bester during the early morning hours. “Matsile gained the trust of two victims when he befriended them at a tavern in the Rustenburg central business district. He then offered to accompany them to Phokeng. “On the way, he threatened them with a toy gun and together with his colleagues forced them to go to a park before raping them repeatedly,” said captain Mokgathe Mokgathe, who investigated the cases. “He used the same *modus operandi* (a particular way

of doing something) on his other two victims.” The 30-year old man was eventually apprehended in Tlhabane on Saturday 27 September 2014 after six months of extensive investigating by Mokgathe. Bafokeng Regional Court sexual offences prosecutor Tshenolo Mekgwe is happy that another convicted rapist is now behind bars. She said: “The evidence was overwhelming. We have a good working relationship with the police and this must continue”. Meanwhile, Rustenburg cluster acting commander brigadier Joel Pheto cautioned women to be cautious when approached by strangers.



From Left: Rustenburg Family Violence, Child Protection and Sexual Offences Units (FCS) captain Mokgathe Mokgathe, Bafokeng Regional Court sexual offences prosecutor Tshenolo Mekgwe and Rustenburg police spokesperson sergeant Ofentse Mokgadi.

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# GRADE 8 LEARNER COLLAPSES AND DIES

**Klerksdorp** – A Grade 8 learner left educators and fellow students at Kanana Secondary School in shock after she collapsed and died on Wednesday 19 February. According to information at hand the learner collapsed on the veranda outside a classroom, shortly after she had complained of stomach pains to her friend. The school principal rushed the learner to the local clinic where nursing staff declared the girl dead on arrival. In a condolence message to the girl's family and school, The Department of Basic Education member of the executive council (MEC) Mmaphefo Matsemela expressed her sadness and shock. She said: “On behalf of the department, I would like to convey our heartfelt condolences to the family and Kanana Secondary School. This is an unfortunate incident, we never expected to lose a learner in this manner and at this young age”. *Platinum Weekly* also extend our condolences to the family, friends, staff and learners at the school for their loss.



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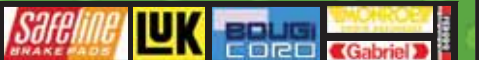
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