

KHASHO

NEWS

12th Edition



2024 IN PICTURES

In loving memory of our beloved DNDPP: NPS, Adv Rodney J de Kock.
May your soul rest in peace!



National Prosecuting Authority
South Africa

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Acknowledgements

Editor:
Vuyolwethu Sigaji
NPA Communications

Editorial Management:
Nomilo Mpondo
NPA Communications

Published for the NPA by:
Milk Brown Design and Communications
www.milkbrowndesign.co.za

THUTHUZELA CARE CENTRE (TCC) AND GENDER BASED VIOLENCE (GBV) EVENTS

On 12 October 2024, the Sol Plaatje University invited the Galeshewe Thuthuzela Care Center (TCC) to join the "First Things First" campaign, aiming to educate students and staff on TCC services:

- Victim Assistance
- Medico-legal support
- Counselling
- Referrals for psychosocial support

The educational sessions encouraged students and employees to report:

- Sexual offenses, Gender-Based Violence (GBV), including domestic violence.



The Galeshewe TCC continues to be a beacon of hope to the people of Kimberley, particularly victims of GBV-related offences. In September 2024, the Galeshewe TCC was visited by women from the South African Defense Force (SANDF). The visit marked the beginning of a working relationship between the TCC and the SANDF. The force committed to ensuring that

it helps in the form of care packs and to raise awareness about GBV. During the engagement, the community was educated about the services of the TCC from victim empowerment, counselling of victims, examination procedures, and referrals for further assistance if need be. The SANDF donated toiletries and clothing that will be given to the victims who will be visiting the TCC.



On 19 August 2024, the Deputy Minister of The Department of Justice and Constitutional Development (DoJ & CD), Mr Andries Nel, and the National Director of Public Prosecutions, Adv Shamila Batohi officially launched the Mitchells Plain Thuthuzela Care Centre. This increased the number of operational Thuthuzela Care Centres (TCC) to 65 across South Africa - a phenomenal increase from 55 in 2021. TCCs are

one-stop facilities which provide pretrial services, and psychosocial, medical, and legal services to victims of gender-based violence (GBV) in a victim-centered manner. The focus is not only on increasing the TCC footprint - given the potential benefits - but also on enhancing the service provision at TCCs.



NELSON MANDELA DAY

On 18 July 2024, the National Prosecuting Authority spent 67 minutes at the Sinakekelwe Thuthuzela Care Centre where they donated 670 hand crafted dolls and hosted a mobile soup kitchen for patients at Thelle Mogoerane Regional Hospital in Vosloorus.



16 DAYS OF ACTIVISM FOR NO VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN AND CHILDREN

The 16 Days Campaign is a United Nations campaign which takes place annually from 25 November (International Day of No Violence against Women) to 10 December (International Human Rights Day). Other days during this period include World Aids Day on the 1st of December and the International Day for Persons with Disabilities, on 3 December of every year. The 16 Days Campaign forms the centre point of government's comprehensive 365 Days of Activism for No Violence Against Women and Children.



On 27 November 2024, the NPA visited the Tentele Disability Centre in Pienaar. This outreach reflected the NPA's commitment to ensuring that all members of society, including those with disabilities, are informed and empowered to fight against gender-based violence (GBV) and abuse. The aim of the visit was to educate them about the NPA's services and to point out that people with disabilities have equal access to the justice system. Attendees were also encouraged to report any crime happening around them.



On 28 November 2024, the Limpopo TCC in Groblersdal together with the SAPS, Legal Aid South Africa, GCIS, Victim Empowerment programme, Department of social Development, Department of Health, Department of Justice, and Broadway held a 16 days of activism against GBVF campaign at Tafelkop Nonyane Hall. Mr Vhutshilo Mabirimisa, Site Coordinator of Groblersdal TCC, educated the community members about the challenges faced by the victims, how to get assistance from TCCs, and the role of NPA in combating the Gender-Based Violence. He further outlined the evidence needed from the victims to assist in successful investigation and conviction. The prosecutor from Groblersdal Magistrates' Court, Tabudi Mamoshiane informed the community about the importance of opening cases against the perpetrators of GBV and elaborated on the crime statistics of domestic violence in Tafelkop.



On 29 November 2024, the Mamelodi TCC organised a 16 Days Campaign Event at Mamelodi Square Mall. Stakeholders that also took part were the NPA Senior Public Prosecutor at Mamelodi Court, Senior Public Prosecutor at Pretoria Regional Court, CPO, FCS, SAPS, Community Safety, DOH, TCC and Moses Mabhida. More than 400 people were reached.



On 03 December 2024, the Limpopo NPA, Dilokong TCC, together with Marula Mine, NACOSA, the Department of Health, the Department of Social Development, Zakhene, community policing forum and the South African Police Service, held 16 days of Activism against GBVF event at the Ga-Mashishi Moshate Tribal office. The Mpumalanga Provincial Manager (SOCA Unit) Advocate Christa Du Plessis addressed the community members about the role of the TCC and their main objectives of assisting GBVF victims. She also emphasised ways of combating domestic violence. Senior Maintenance Prosecutor, Advocate Maria Phalane also educated the community about how to get assistance when applying for maintenance in the Magistrate's Courts.



On 11 December 2024, the Kuruman Thuthuzela Care Centre (TCC) hosted a Community Dialogue. The TCC, in collaboration with Lovelife-Youth, Ixaro-Women Empowerment, Inova Health Institute-Mental Health, and Correctional Services, organised a community dialogue in Bankhara Bodulong. This event aimed to address the pervasive issue of Gender-Based Violence and Femicide (GBV&F) within the community. The programme commenced with a symbolic walk, followed by a comprehensive dialogue, and culminated in a poignant candlelight ceremony to honour the memories of those who lost their lives due to abuse. This collective effort underscored the importance of community-led initiatives in preventing and responding to GBV&F.



On 08 December 2024, the NPA in Upington collaborated with key stakeholders, including the NGO, Women on Farms (WOF), to visit farming communities on the outskirts of Upington. During the outreach, the community was educated on Gender-Based Violence and Femicide (GBV&F), including the types of offenses and charges that can be made, how and when to report incidents, and the court procedures involved in GBV cases. This initiative aimed to empower farming communities with knowledge and resources to prevent and address GBV, promoting a safer and more supportive environment for all.



On 08 December 2024, the NPA partnered with various stakeholders, including the Departments of Social Development, Justice, and Health, the South African Police Service, and Northern Cape Traffic Control, to conduct a door-to-door community outreach in Olifantshoek, Northern Cape. The campaign aimed to educate and engage community members on issues surrounding Gender-Based Violence and Femicide (GBVF) and Human Trafficking. Through survey questionnaires, community members shared their perspectives on:

- Their understanding of GBVF and Human Trafficking
- Government's role in maintaining law and order
- Community-led initiatives to uphold the law.

The outreach targeted both elderly and youth groups, encouraging them to report cases of abuse and promote community unity in combating GBVF. By taking the campaign directly to the community, the NPA reinforced its commitment to addressing the scourge of GBVF and promoting a safer, more just society.



On 08 December 2024, the NPA took part in a Gender Based Violence and Femicide (GBV&F) and awareness event at Faranani Multipurpose Centre Clinic in Tsakane. The event was supported by The Department of Justice and Constitutional Development (DoJ & CD), South African Police Service, Ekurhuleni Metro Police Department (EMPD), the Department of Social Development (DSD), the Department of Health (DOH), the Community Police Forum (CPF) and LifeLine. The event aimed to educate the community of Tsakane about GBV&F, the concern of withdrawal of GBV related cases and Court Preparation Services.



On 05 December 2024, in a demonstration of solidarity with victims of Gender-Based Violence (GBV), Implats donated 52 care packs to the NPA's Thuthuzela Care Centre at Thelle Mogoerane Hospital in Vosloorus. These packs contain essential toiletries for both female and male victims of abuse, providing them with vital support during a traumatic time. In addition to the donation, Inpowered conducted a self-defense training session for the center's staff and other delegates. This empowering programme equipped participants with critical skills to better assist and support survivors of GBV. This collective effort highlighted the importance of community support, care, and proactive measures in addressing the pervasive issue of GBV.



On 06 December 2024, the NPA Durban Cluster in KwaZulu-Natal pioneered a unique approach to addressing GBV. Prosecutors, Roshiela Benimadho and Alexis Appalsamy empowered community leaders to become catalysts for change through a transformative "Train the Trainer" workshop.

In partnership with the Narain Jeawon Vedic Centre of the Arya Samaj, South Africa, the workshop was designed for two community-based organisations dedicated to combating GBV: WeFeedSA and the Lindokuhle Community Based Organisation.



16 DAYS OF ACTIVISM AGAINST GENDER BASED VIOLENCE

NOVEMBER 25 - DECEMBER 10



STOP VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN

The Groblersdal Thuthuzela Care Centre in collaboration with various stakeholders, including the South African Police Service, Legal Aid South Africa, and the Department of Social Development, hosted a #16DaysOfActivism for No Violence Against Women and Children at Tafelkop Nonyane Hall, in Limpopo.

Mr Vhutshilo Mabirimisa, Site Coordinator of the Groblersdal Thuthuzela Care Centre, educated the community about the challenges faced by GBV victims, how to access assistance from Thuthuzela Care Centres, and the NPA's role in combating GBV. He also outlined

the evidence required from victims to ensure successful investigations and convictions.

Additionally, Tabudi Mamoshiane, a prosecutor from the Groblersdal Magistrates' Court, emphasised the importance of opening cases against perpetrators and shared statistics on domestic violence in Tafelkop. The Witness Protection Unit was also highlighted as a vital resource for protecting witnesses from intimidation.

#ThuthuzelaCareCentres #turningvictimsintosurvivors



NPA SCHOOL AND YOUTH OUTREACH 2024

On 05 November 2024, as part of the NPA's continuous work of empowering communities, the Upington Cluster, Springbok Office hosted an information

session with Grade Six and Seven learners of Springbok Primary School. The programme was hosted by the Springbok TCC, the Court Preparation Officers and Prosecutors. The presentations were informed by recent complaints of inappropriate sexual conduct noticed among the age group within the community.



The NPA in KwaZulu-Natal continues to empower communities by educating them on the work of the NPA, as well as providing them with a safe space, while supporting them on their journey from victims of crime to survivors.

On 31 October 2024, Court Preparation Manager, Ms. Xolile Mzobe attended an event commemorating the International Day of the Girl Child, which was held at the University of KwaZulu-Natal, Westville. Female learners from the Umlazi and Pinetown districts attended with their teachers. Ms Mzobe educated them about Gender-Based Violence, the dangers of social media, human trafficking, and cyber bullying, the service of the Court Preparation Section, and the mandate of the NPA in preventing secondary victimisation.

Prosecutors from the Northern KwaZulu-Natal Cluster, namely the Madadeni Magistrates' Court in partnership with the Madadeni TCC and the Newcastle FCS hosted a tea party for elderly victims of crime of pending or finalised cases. The initiative aimed to strengthen them and give them hope as they moved on beyond their trauma. The day hoped to show that the NPA cares beyond the court processes.



Prosecutors and staff based at the Durban Magistrates' Court revamped the Children's Waiting Room, to make it a more child-friendly space for the children who come to court to attend proceedings (either as witnesses or complainants). The project, spearheaded by the Office of the Chief Prosecutor, was launched by the Acting Regional Court President in KwaZulu-Natal, Mr. Anand Maharaj. Members from the local church assisted with the painting and murals in the room.

On 31 October 2024, the NPA officials from the Edendale Thuthuzela Care Centre, Ms. Yolokazi Mjoli and the Pietermaritzburg Court Preparation Officer, Ms. Nokuvela Mlotshwa participated in a school outreach programme at Izwilezizwe Primary School in Welkom in KwaZulu-Natal. Other stakeholders were the SAPS, the Department of Health, Lifeline and Incema (a local NGO). NPA discussion topics included the Court Preparation Programme, Thuthuzela Care Centres, the role of the NPA in the Criminal Justice System, and Gender-based violence.

On 10 October 2024, the NPA Welkom Office empowered local youth through various information sharing sessions at Lekgarietse and Leseding Secondary Schools in Thabong, near Welkom.

In collaboration with the South African Police Service (SAPS) and the Department of Education, the sessions were aimed at:

- Addressing bullying and its consequences
- Educating students on legal issues affecting minors
- Promoting positive behavior within schools and communities

These interactive sessions equipped learners with essential knowledge, encouraging them to become responsible, law-abiding citizens.

On 27 August 2024, The NPA in KwaZulu-Natal visited eZwelihle Primary School in the Betania area to raise awareness about child and substance abuse, teenage pregnancy, and services provided by the NPA. The event was led by officials from the Port Shepstone TCC which offers psycho-social and medico-legal services to victims of Gender-Based Violence (GBV) and sexual assault.

Following the visit to the school, the officials took part in an anti-crime imbizo in the Ugu District. The imbizo was held in collaboration with the SAPS, DSD, FCS, Department of Community Safety and Liaison, Department of Correctional Services, and the Mayoral office. The NPA emphasised the importance of reporting sexual assault and domestic violence cases at the TCC where victims will receive treatment and services under one roof.



On 03 August 2024, the NPA together with the SAPS, Department of Social Development, Suid Afrikaanse Vroue Federasie (SAVF), Lesedi Municipality, Department of Education, Safety and the Department of Health visited Sithokomele Primary School in Ratanda in Gauteng. The visit formed part of a sexual offences campaign aimed at educating learners about sexual offences and encouraging them to speak out.



On 07 June 2024, the NPA in Mpumalanga and various stakeholders visited Ndawonye Primary School in Piet Retief. The visit formed part of Child Protection Week, commemorated annually to raise awareness on the rights of children as articulated in the Constitution of the Republic of South Africa and Children's Act (Act No. 38 of 2005).



On 21 June 2024, NPA officials from Umlazi TCC in KwaZulu-Natal, participated in a placard demonstration together with SAPS and the eThekweni Municipality. This was in commemoration of Child Protection Week. They engaged pedestrians as well as motorists by handing out information booklets and speaking to them about child protection related issues.



PRESIDENTIAL IMBIZO, 08 NOVEMBER 2024 AT UMNINI SPORTSFIELD, UMGABABA, ETHEKWINI METROPOLITAN MUNICIPALITY IN THE KWAZULU-NATAL PROVINCE

The Presidential Imbizo is where leaders from all three spheres of government interact with residents on service delivery challenges, which communities have brought to government's attention, as well as plans for the development of the district.

On 06 November 2024, the NPA participated in the Government Exhibition Day which served as the Presidential Imbizo build up event.

On 07 November 2024, the NPA took part in a Blitz at the Winkelspruit Kingsburg Taxi Rank which also served as the Presidential Imbizo build-up event. More than 100 commuters and taxi drivers participated and interacted with the NPA and partners.

On 08 November 2024, the NPA took part in a Presidential Imbizo at the Umnini Sportsfield in KZN to exhibit and to educate the community about the work of the organisation.



TRAFFICKING IN PERSON EVENT

On 05 November 2024, the NPA participated in Human Trafficking Week 2024, in Galeshewe in Kimberley in the Northern Cape.

The programme commenced with a roadblock on the N12 where vehicles were searched, and human trafficking screening and awareness were conducted. The stop and search were followed by a march against Gender-Based Violence. The procession was led by the South African Police Service, the Hawks and officials from the Kimberley Magistrates' Court, right through the streets of Kimberley and ended again at the Kimberley Magistrates' Building. Spaza shops were inspected for illegal and expired goods. During the operation, some

shops that were found to be operating illegally were closed. Several illegal immigrants were arrested during the operation. The operation was held in partnership with various government stakeholders.



On 24 October 2024, the NPA participated in the Gauteng Department of Social Development annual Trafficking in Persons event held at the Braamfischer Community Hall in Soweto. The event was held under the theme "Leave No One Behind in the Fight Against Human Trafficking" (Operation Buyisa). Advocates, Tshimangadzo Mbodi and Leisha Surendra represented the NPA, highlighting their role in prosecuting human trafficking cases, also emphasising the plight of the NPA in ensuring that women and children live in freedom and security. Amongst the attendees were stakeholders from the South African Police Service, the Department of Home Affairs, the Department of Employment and Labour, various Non-Governmental Organisations, and the community of Braamfischer in Soweto.



NATIONAL PROSECUTIONS AND ACCESS TO JUSTICE EVENTS

Stock Theft

On 12 September 2024, the NPA in Limpopo, together with South African Police Services, Correctional Services, Metropolitan, Technology Management Service, Department of Agriculture and Rural Development and the Integrated Youth Crime Prevention Strategy held a stock theft Indaba at Ngoako

Ramahlodi Sports Complex in Seshego in Limpopo. Chief Prosecutor, Advocate Octavia Ngwenya addressed the community about the importance of brand marking their stocks and how stock theft is affecting the community. She further pleaded with the complainants to report cases without delay for investigation purposes.



Maintenance

On 09 September 2024, the NPA in Limpopo, together with Legal Aid SA, the Department of Health, Polokwane Municipality, and the Foschini Group held a Maintenance Information Session at

Jack Botes Hall, Polokwane. Senior Maintenance Prosecutor, Adv. Maria Phalane educated the community about child and spousal maintenance. The presentation included the process and documentation required when making an application.



Access to Justice Week

On 27 August 2024, NPA officials in KwaZulu-Natal participated in various activities in commemoration of Access to Justice Week. Adv. Nokuhanya Gcwabaza



participated in a Maintenance outreach at Scottburgh Magistrates' Court. Maintenance services are provided once a week at the Umzinto Magistrates' Court.



Gender-based Violence (GBV) awareness

On 30 July 2024, to raise awareness on Gender-Based Violence (GBV) and support victims as well as survivors, the court preparation programme in the Western Cape Division, managed by Deputy Director: Court Preparation, Ms. Laura Baartman, initiated a workshop at the College of Cape Town, Athlone Campus, on GBV awareness and referral pathways together with Ms. Sophie Petlele, Western Cape High Court: Court Preparation Officer.

The primary objective of the workshop was to increase awareness and understanding of GBV amongst students and highlight the available resources and referral pathways as well as the support services students can access should they find themselves in such situations. The workshop was facilitated by Ms. Sophie Petlele, and Ms. Phelisa Mashiyi, also a Court Preparation Officer within the Western Cape Division, who highlighted the vital role of the NPA in the Criminal Justice System.



NPA JOINS FORCES TO COMBAT GBV

As part of the #16DaysOfActivism for No Violence Against Women and Children, the National Prosecuting Authority (NPA) in the Eastern Cape participated in the Gender-Based Violence and Femicide Indaba. The event aimed to raise awareness and encourage

action against violence towards women and children. In collaboration with the Department of Justice and Constitutional Development (DoJ&CD), the NPA shared updates on key legislation, including:

- The Domestic Violence Act
- The Older Persons Act
- How to apply for protection orders

The event was organised by the Department of Social Development, with support from various stakeholders. #StopGBVF #NPA



WESTERN CAPE DIVISION SERVICE EXCELLENCE AWARDS 2024







DIRECTORS OF PUBLIC PROSECUTIONS

DPP	POSTAL ADDRESS	OFFICE NUMBER	DIRECT NUMBER	PHYSICAL ADDRESS
Gauteng Local Division: Adv MA Chauke achauke@npa.gov.za	Private Bag X8 JOHANNESBURG 2000	Tel: 011 220 4000 Fax: 011 220 4232	Tel: 011 220 4122/ 1425 Mamikie Suping	Innes Chambers Building C/o Pritchard and Kruis Streets JOHANNESBURG 2000
Free State Division: Adv N Somaru nsomaru@npa.gov.za	Private Bag X20506 BLOEMFONTEIN 9300	Tel: 051 410 6000 Fax: 051 410 6051	Tel: 051 410 6009 Mpai Noe	Waterval Centre C/o Aliwal & St Andrews Streets BLOEMFONTEIN
Gauteng Division: Pretoria Adv S Mzinyathi smzinyathi@npa.gov.za	Private Bag X 300 PRETORIA 0001	Tel: 012 351 6700 Fax: 012 323 0866	Tel: 012 351 6704 Lizzy Maphutha	Prudential Building 28 Church Square PRETORIA
Northern Cape Division: Mr L Sakata lmsakata@npa.gov.za	Private Bag X5037 KIMBERLEY 8300	Tel: 053 807 4500 Fax: 053 832 9434	Tel: 053 807 4595 Emse Manuel	Wilcon House 22 Fabricia Road KIMBERLEY
KwaZulu-Natal Division: Adv E Harrison Eharrison@npa.gov.za	Private Bag X9008 PIETERMARITZBURG 3200	Tel: 033 845 4400 Fax: 033 392 8700	Tel: 031 334 5094 Nothando Mpisi	7 th Floor 286 Pietermaritz Street PIETERMARITZBURG 3200
Eastern Cape Division: Mr B Madolo bmadolo@npa.gov.za	Private Bag X 1009 GRAHAMSTOWN 6140	Tel: 046 602 3000 Tel: 047 501 2600	Tel: 012 842 1454 Nomfuneko Kamana Tel: 047 501 2655 Lindiwe Gobinduku	94 High Street, GRAHAMSTOWN 6140 Broadcast House, Lower Sissons Street, Fort Gale MTHATHA
Western Cape Division: Adv N Bell nabell@npa.gov.za	Private Bag 9003 CAPE TOWN 8000	Tel: 021 487 7236 Fax: 021 487 7236	Tel: 021 487 7235 Neelfah Davids	115 Buitengracht Street CAPE TOWN 8001
North West Division: Dr R Makhari-Sekhaolelo rmakhari@npa.gov.za	Private Bag X2009 MMABATHO 2735	Tel: 018 381 9001/2 Fax: 018 843 1005	Tel: 018 381 9002 Tertia van Biljon	Megacity Complex East Gallery 3139 Sekame Road 3 MMABATHO
Limpopo Division: Adv I Thenga lthenga@npa.gov.za	36 Biccard Street Block B (Floor 5) NPA POLOKWANE 0700	Tel: 015 360 0274	Tel: 015 045 0275 Adelaide Modubu	36 Biccard Street Limpopo High Court Block B (Floor 5) NPA POLOKWANE
Mpumalanga Division: Mr S Ntuli (Acting DPP) sntuli@npa.gov.za	Private Bag X 11266 NELSPRUIT 1200	Tel: 013 045 0620	Tel: 013 045 0634 Sivekati Dlamini	Mpumalanga Division of the High Court 52 Samora Machel and Kaapsehoop Streets NELSPRUIT 1200