



co-operative governance
& traditional affairs

MPUMALANGA PROVINCE
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

Building No. 6, Ext 2, No. 7 Government Boulevard, Riverside Park, Mbombela, 1200, Mpumalanga Province
Private Bag X11304, Mbombela, 1200. Int Tel: +27 (13) 766 6087, Tel: (013) 766 6087
Int: Fax: +27 (13) 766 8252, Fax: (013) 766 8252

Litiko
Lekubusa
ngekubambisana
netebuholi bendzabuko

Departement van
Koöperatiewe Regering
en Tradisionele Sake

umNyango
wezekuBusa
ngokuHlanganyela
neeNdaba zamaKhosi

MEDIA RELEASE

**All Editors
All Media Houses**

MEC REFILWE MTSHWENI WELCOMES THE COURT JUDGEMENT

MEC for Co-operative Governance and Traditional Affairs (COGTA) in Mpumalanga, Ms Refilwe Mtshweni has welcomed the successful prosecution of an illegal initiation school head in Mpumalanga. Mr Jabulani Mlombo was found guilty on 17 counts of rape. Mr Mlombo's aide, Sister Mapaseka Khoza was found guilty on two charges of assault and one count of assault with intend to inflict grievous bodily harm.

MEC Mtshweni says the outcome of the case signals the effectiveness of the ingoma act of 2011 that regulate the operation of the initiation schools in Mpumalanga. "The successful prosecution of the two is the result of the Ingoma act that was promulgated by the Premier to curb malpractices in the traditional practices in which our young boys are initiated into adulthood. This is signal enough that the law will always take its course against those who act unlawfully," MEC Mtshweni warned.

Mtshweni further commended traditional leaders and the communities for their role in ensuring the successful prosecution of the two. She said their role in reporting non-compliance of initiation school owners to the ingoma act will serve as a deterrent against the risk of possible loss of lives. "We call upon Amakhosi, parents and our communities to be vigilant against those who fail to comply. Their role is crucial in our zero-tolerance campaign against death cases in the initiation schools," MEC Mtshweni said.

**Issued by: The Department of Co-operative Governance and Traditional Affairs
Contact Person: Mr George Mthethwa – 013 766 6572 / 083 302 2774
E-mail: gpmthethwa@mpg.gov.za
Date: 2 October 2015**