



# **GAUTENG PROVINCE**

COMMUNITY SAFETY  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

## **MEDIA STATEMENT**

**TO: ALL MEDIA**

**ATTENTION: NEWS EDITORS**

**DATE: FRIDAY, 21 JUNE 2019**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

### **MEC Mazibuko welcomes the sentencing of a former police officer**

The Gauteng MEC for Community Safety, Faith Mazibuko, has welcomed the sentencing of the 50-year-old former member of the South African Police Service, Bigboy Digoro to an effective eight-year sentence after he was found guilty of corruption. Digoro was sentenced at the Lenasia Magistrate's court earlier this week, after he was initially dismissed at an internal hearing following his arrest by the Hawks.

Digoro, a former member of the Soweto Vehicle Identification and Safeguarding [VIS] Unit, was arrested in 2014 after crime intelligence provided information to the Hawks that he was selling information on recovered vehicles to syndicates and individuals.

In January 2019, Digoro was found guilty on charges of corruption and ultimately sentenced to an effective eight-year sentence with no option of a fine and his appeal was also turned down.

"I welcome the sentence imposed on this unscrupulous former police officer who tarnished the reputation of law enforcement agencies. Police officers are supposed to work and conduct themselves with the highest level of integrity and professionalism.

I commend the diligent work conducted by the Hawks in ensuring that they put together a water-tight case against this corrupt former police officer. Criminals like Digoro pose a danger to society hence they must be locked in jail for a very long time. I hope Digoro's sentencing will send a strong message to our police officers that all elements of corruption are punishable within our ranks and that the criminal justice system will not hesitate to act harshly against anyone found guilty of corruption," said MEC Mazibuko.

**END**

Issued by the office of the MEC for Community Safety in Gauteng. For media enquiries contact Pinkie Numa on 083 856 8454. For media releases, speeches and news visit the website: [www.gauteng.gov.za](http://www.gauteng.gov.za)

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