

correctional services

Department: Correctional Services **REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA**

MEDIA STATEMENT

10 October 2023

MANHUNT ON FOR TWO SENTENCED KZN INMATES

The Department of Correctional Services (DCS) has launched a manhunt following an escape of two sentenced inmates from Nkandla and Vryheid Correctional facilities in KwaZulu-Natal.

The escapees are 34-year-old Siyabonga Sikhakhane, serving 16 years imprisonment (of which 8 years is suspended) for housebreaking and theft. He was incarcerated at Nkandla Correctional Centre since 23 March 2022.

The second escapee is 29-year-old Siphamandla Gift Simelane, serving two years for a similar offence(s) of housebreaking and theft. He was admitted at Vryheid Correctional Centre on 03 October 2023.

The Emergency Support Team of Correctional Services is working together with the South African Police Service in an effort to rearrest the two. The circumstances under which the two inmates escaped are being investigated as they were both out with the spans (work teams).

Members of the public are urged to contact the nearest police station should they come into contact with the two escapees.

