



correctional services

Department:
Correctional Services
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

MEDIA STATEMENT

9 November 2025

Escapee Jakob September Rearrested

The Department of Correctional Services (DCS) confirms that inmate Jakob September was successfully rearrested in the Overberg area, Western Cape, at approximately 21h00 on Saturday evening, following a coordinated search operation.

September escaped from the dairy team at around 11h00 on Saturday morning while performing work duties at the animal grazing area within the prison grounds of Helderstroom Correctional Facility. The 44-year-old male was serving a life sentence imposed in 2011 for rape and murder.

The Department's Emergency Support Team, together with security officials and members of the South African Police Service (SAPS) in Villiersdorp and Caledon, immediately activated a joint operation to ensure the swift apprehension of the escapee.

DCS remains committed to maintaining the safe and secure custody of inmates and extends its appreciation to all cluster partners and the local agricultural network for their cooperation and decisive action that led to the rapid rearrest.

An internal investigation will be conducted to determine the circumstances that enabled the escape.

ENDS

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