

CIVILIAN SECRETARIAT FOR POLICE



POLICY ON THE INVESTIGATION AND MANAGEMENT OF SERIAL RAPE AND SERIAL MURDER

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Acronyms

CAS	Case Administration System
CIAC	Crime Intelligence Analysis Centre
CR&CSM	Criminal Records & Crime Scene Management
DCS	Department of Correctional Services
DNA	Deoxyribonucleic Acid
DPP	Director of Public Prosecutions
FCS	Family Violence, Child Protection and Sexual Offences Unit
FDM	Forensic Database Management
FSL	Forensic Science Laboratory
ICDMS	Integrated Case Docket Management System
IPS	Investigative Psychology Section
LCRC	Local Criminal Records Centre
NFDD	National Forensic DNA Database
NGO	Non-Governmental Organisation
ROC	Resolution of Crime Course
SAECK	Sexual Assault Evidence Collection Kit
SAPS	South African Police Service
VIC	Victim Identification Centre

1. BACKGROUND

Historically, South Africa has experienced a high incidence of serial murder and serial rape, sometimes being referred to as within the top three countries, alongside the USA and Russia, when it comes to numbers of such offender. In the mid-1990s, during the advent of Democracy in South Africa, there appeared to be an increase in murder series coming to law enforcement's attention. Few can forget the impact that offender such as Moses Sithole and the so-called Station Strangler had upon the psyche of the nation. Initial steps were taken to deal with this developing threat. Specialised units were mandated to deal with serials, the Investigative Psychology Section was created, and the SAPS became the first law enforcement agency in the world to provide regular training in the identification and investigation of murder and rape series. Since then the country, and indeed the SAPS, have undergone many changes in terms of its structure and technology.

Some of these have had a positive impact on our ability to identify and investigate serials, and some have had a negative impact. Technology, specifically DNA, has become an important game-changer when it comes to the identification of serials, specifically serial rape. Changes in the manner in which DNA is processed at the Forensic Science Laboratory have led to the SAPS becoming aware of the true extent of this menace in our society. In the past where only a handful of rape series were coming to the attention of law enforcement, now literally more than a thousand new serial rapists' activities are being recognised by the police. This has necessitated the implementation of a serial rape and serial murder policy.

The aim of the policy is to bring in line the existing structures in place, such as the DNA Database, the Serial DNA Team, the Investigative Psychology Section, and trained investigators, and to implement new structures, such as permanent serial investigation task teams, and monitoring systems, to ensure that these series are identified early and properly investigated by qualified investigators, in a consistent manner, throughout the country. A lone serial offender of this nature, not only destroys the lives of their victims, they impact upon their families, and terrorise society. These offenders attack some of the very basic human rights we hold dear in our Constitution; Human Dignity, Life, Freedom and Security of the Person, and Freedom of Movement and Residence.

The purpose is to ensure that these offenders are brought to justice as soon as possible. In serial investigations time equals victims. With this policy time devoted to solving these cases will be reduced to a minimum as all role-players will be aware of what their responsibilities are in such investigations, based on time-tested best practices. This policy is dedicated to those victims who taught us how to investigate serial offenders.

The purpose of this policy is to set out:

- the structure of serial rape and/or serial murder investigations
- the process and procedure for conducting serial rape and/or serial murder investigations.

1.2 Supporting regulatory framework

In implementing this policy investigating officers must take the following laws and policies into account:

- The Criminal Law (Sexual Offences and Related Matters) Amendment Act, 32 of 2007
- National Policy Framework for the Management of Sexual Offence Matters, 2012
- National Directives and Instructions on Conducting a Forensic Examination on Survivors of Sexual Offence Cases in Terms of the Criminal Law (Sexual Offences and Related Matters) Amendment Act, 2007
- National Instruction 3/2008: Sexual offences
- Regulations on services for victims of sexual offences and compulsory HIV testing of alleged sex offenders
- National Instruction 2/2012: Victim Empowerment
- Crime Scene Management Policy
- Criminal Law (Forensic Procedures) Amendment Act, 6 of 2010
- Criminal Law (Forensic Procedures) Amendment Act, 37 of 2013
- Criminal Law Amendment Act of 1997
- Forensic DNA Regulations, 2015 (Vol 597/ No.38561)
- Sexual Offences Act of 1957
- Criminal Procedure Act 51 of 1977
- The Children's Act 38 of 2005
- Older Person's Act 13 of 2006

2. DEFINITIONS

In this policy –

- Serial rape refers to the commission of at least two or more rapes by the same offender on separate occasions.
- Serial murder refers to murders perpetrated on at least two separate occasions by the same offender(s).

2.2 ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES FOR THE INVESTIGATION OF SERIAL RAPE AND/OR SERIAL MURDER

A range of different structures within the SAPS must be involved during the investigation of serial rape and/or serial murder. To streamline and standardise serial rape and/or murder investigations the roles and responsibilities of the various SAPS structures are detailed below.

3.1 The Provincial Commissioner

- Every Provincial Commissioner must facilitate the identification of serial murders and serial rapes and liaise with the Investigative Psychological Section when such cases occur and when serial offences occur in more than one province. He or she must also ensure that forensic investigative leads, multiple offenders and serial offences involving murder and rape are investigated and resolved.
- When a murder series is identified the Provincial Commissioner and the Divisional Commissioner: Detective Services must put together a task team of detectives with appropriate training and experience in serial murder casework.
- The Provincial Commissioner must ensure that investigations and leads in series cases are communicated and coordinated across station borders or, where applicable, provincial borders.
- The roles and responsibilities between national and provincial task teams and specialised investigation units in relation to serial murder and serial rape investigations must be clearly defined by the Provincial Commissioner of the Province in consultation with the Divisional Commissioner: Detective Service.
- A Provincial Commissioner must, after consultation with Divisional Commissioner: Detective Service, establish a nodal point in his or her province to monitor the progress of task teams in his or her province in respect of the

investigation of forensic investigative leads relating to serial murder and serial rapes. The nodal point must, at least on a monthly basis, provide feedback to the nodal point at the Division: Detective Service.

2.3 Division: Detective Services

- The Divisional Commissioner: Detective Service must establish nodal points within that division to monitor and follow-up solved and unsolved forensic investigative leads in relation to serial murder and serial rape with Provincial Commissioners.
- The Divisional Commissioner: Detective Service must ensure that these types of investigations and leads are communicated and coordinated across station borders or, where applicable, provincial borders.
- The nodal point at the Division: Detective Service must, at least on a monthly basis, provide feedback to the Section Head: Forensic Database Management on progress on reported forensic investigative leads.

2.4 Family Violence Child Protection and Sexual Offences (FCS) Units

- Given their mandate, it is the responsibility of the FCS Unit to investigate serial rape. Depending on provincial need and circumstances these investigations may either be driven by a permanent unit established at provincial level to exclusively focus on serial rape investigations, or they may be managed at cluster level by FCS detectives both dedicated to, and specialised in, the investigation of serial rape.
- Any detective investigating a serial must, at a minimum, have completed the FCS training course, the Resolution of Crime (ROC) course and the Psychologically Motivated Crimes course, or a specialised serial rape investigation course presented by the Investigative Psychology Section
- National guidelines regarding the training and recruitment of such detectives must be developed within six months of the policy coming into effect.

2.5 Provincial task teams investigating serial murder

- It is the responsibility of the Provincial Commissioner and the Divisional Commissioner: Detective Service to establish a task team of detectives with

appropriate training and experience in serial murder casework once a murder series has been identified.

- SAPS members who have attended the Psychologically Motivated Crimes Course must be prioritised for inclusion in the task team, along with those members who have completed Serious and Violent Crime Course and the Organised Crime Course. This training equips investigators with the necessary skills to identify and investigate these crimes based on the best practices that have been developed over the years. Detectives who have attended such training must be included in serial investigations even if such crimes have not occurred in their area of investigation.
- When a cross-over of crimes occurs (that is when an offender begins by raping and then progresses to murder), appropriately trained and experienced serial murder investigators must be added to the initial FCS task team. Alternatively, if all the dockets are taken over by a provincial task team, then some of the original FCS members must join the task team to ensure continuity and to ensure that knowledge of the investigation not recorded in the docket is not lost.

2.6 Investigative Psychology Section (IPS) in the Division: Forensic Services

The IPS was established to perform a number of functions, including:

- assisting investigating officers in the investigation of psychologically motivated crimes such as serial rape and serial murder;
- training detectives and other members to identify and investigate these crimes;
- providing expert evidence during the prosecution and sentencing of such offenders;
- conducting research intended to further understanding of psychologically motivated crimes.

The IPS will typically become involved in those cases where an investigating officer has requested assistance, or where there is at least one murder within the rape series – even if their assistance is not requested. The involvement of IPS in the investigation of serial murders is automatic when such series come to their attention.

2.7 Provincial Coordinators for Psychologically Motivated Crimes

- Ideally the post of Provincial Coordinator should be a full-time position within the Detective Service. The Provincial Coordinator is also well placed to act as the nodal point referred to in 3.2.
- The chief role of the Provincial Coordinator is to liaise with the IPS, Provincial and National offices of the SAPS, including liaising between provinces when cross-border serial rape and serial murder cases have been identified. They can also liaise with the NPA when necessary to facilitate the prosecution of such offences.
- The Provincial Coordinator does not lead investigations but ensures that day-to-day operations are running smoothly and that detectives receive the resources they require. The co-ordinator also assists with organisational stumbling blocks that may occur during such investigations.
- The Provincial Coordinator should be monitoring the investigation on a day-to-day basis to help overcome any operation problems the team may encounter, and should be up to date regarding the progress of the investigation. He or she can provide regular feedback escalating upwards to the Provincial structures and more senior management in the Province, and the IPS.

2.8 Forensic Database Management Section: Quality Management: Division: Forensic Services

- The Criminal Law (Forensic Procedures) Amendment Act, 37 of 2013 establishes the National Forensic DNA Database of South Africa (NFDD) and requires that it be operated independently from the Forensic Science Laboratory (FSL) performing DNA analysis. The Section: Forensic Database Management in the Division: Forensic Services has been established to load forensic DNA profiles derived from certain categories of persons and crime samples onto different Indexes in the NFDD.
- The FDM is responsible for undertaking comparison DNA searches on the NFDD. The verified outcomes of the comparison searches are referred to as forensic DNA investigative leads.
- Forensic examiners in FDM communicate the forensic DNA investigative leads as s212 statements to the following:
 - Investigating officers originally involved in the linked cases

- Established task teams in the Province
- Investigative Psychological Section in the Division: Forensic Services
- Forensic Examiners ("serial team") in the Biology Section of the Forensic Science Laboratory in the Division: Forensic Services
- The s212 reports and spreadsheets capturing unsolved/ outstanding feedback forensic investigative leads are also made available in an electronic format on a repository in the SAPS. SAPS officials that have been authorised by the Divisional Commissioner: Detective Services are given access to this electronic repository.

2.9 "DNA Serial Team" in the Biology Section of the Forensic Science Laboratory

- The Head: Forensic Science Laboratory is required to establish "DNA Serial Teams" in the laboratories performing DNA analysis to manage and provide forensic DNA reports of serial casework. It is the responsibility of the "DNA Serial Team" to:
 - Monitor the DNA processing of DNA exhibits to link serial offenders to cases
 - Produce forensic DNA findings to investigating officers
- In accordance with the supporting DNA regulation, the serial cases must be finalised within 30 days once information is received that the serial cases are linked.
- When a control reference sample of a person who is believed to be the likely offender is submitted to the Forensic Science Laboratory, this control reference sample must be given priority processing so as to provide conclusive evidence if the suspect can be linked to the DNA retrieved from the crime scene samples submitted to FSL.
- The "DNA Serial Team" is responsible for compiling the s212 statement that will be used in the prosecution of a serial suspect. The "Serial Team" will send the s212 statement, with a covering letter, to the investigating officer who is recorded as managing the case in the covering letter attached to the original exhibits sent to the FSL.

- In addition, these documents are forwarded to the IPS and various members of Detective Services at national head office, who have been identified in this document, or by the Investigating Officer of the series.

2.10 Trained members of Provincial Crime Scene Management Units and some decentralised Local Criminal Record Centres of the Division: Forensic Services

- Some members of the National and Provincial Crime Scene Management Units and the Local Criminal Record Centres (LCRC) have attended the Psychologically Motivated Crimes Course. These trained members should be called upon to assist with crime scenes related to psychologically motivated crimes. In addition, they are also in a position to identify crime scenes that are characteristic of serial crimes, even if such a scene was not initially identified as such.

2.11 Crime Intelligence Analysis Centre at Stations

- The Crime Intelligence Analysis Centre (CIAC) must assist investigating officers by performing modus operandi and intelligence screening to identify possible suspects, and to also link cases (solved and unsolved) by means of such analysis. These cases can then be further investigated by investigating officers as stipulated in this document, and forensically by the FSL. CIAC members must receive training in the modus operandi of serial murder and serial rape offenders to facilitate this process.

3. THE IDENTIFICATION OF SERIAL RAPE AND SERIAL MURDER CASES

A series of rapes or murders is typically identified by the SAPS in the following ways.

4.1 Modus Operandi

- The traditional method of identifying serial crimes is noticing similarities in modus operandi between separate rape or murder cases. This method is the fastest way to make links between cases because modus operandi is immediately available and present in all cases. It is also the cheapest method because linking

by DNA can take weeks or months, and in some cases DNA is not available. Furthermore, if a DNA Sexual Assault Evidence Collection Kit (SAECK) is not submitted timeously to the FSL this further delays the processing of DNA and subsequent linking of cases by DNA.

- A number of different individuals, organisations or police structures may link cases on the basis of a similar modus operandi prior to detectives seeing such similarities. These have included members of the media, as well as health workers and counsellors based at NGOs. Facial Identification members and Crime Scene Management members have also made links on the basis of modus operandi. CIAC as mentioned in 3.10 must also play a role in linking cases.

3.2 Forensic DNA investigative leads

The FDM identifies forensic DNA investigative leads. These can either:

- Link a person who's profile is already on the NFDD to different crime scenes (cases); or
- Link different cases (DNA exhibits from different cases with the same profile), but where the forensic DNA profile of the person is not on the NFDD.

The establishment of the DNA Database has resulted in a dramatic increase in the number of serial crimes coming to the attention of the SAPS.

3.3 Suspect notification

- In some instances an offender arrested for a single crime has subsequently informed the SAPS that he is responsible for other similar crimes. This happens rarely.

4. PROCESS ONCE A SERIAL IS IDENTIFIED BY THE DIVISION: FORENSIC SERVICES

- On notification by the Division: Forensic Services that an investigation has been linked by DNA to other investigations, or it is the opinion of trained serial investigators that the crimes are the work of a serial offender, it is the

responsibility of the investigating officer or Serial Task Team to ensure that certain people/structures are notified that a serial offender is active. These may include:

- FCS Unit commander and FCS cluster commander (in a rape series)
 - FCS provincial coordinator (if it is a rape series) or relevant provincial head
 - The Provincial Commissioner and the Divisional Commissioner: Detective Services
 - The Provincial Coordinator: Psychologically Motivated Crimes
 - The detective service at national head office
 - IPS based at the National office of Criminal Records and Crime Scene Management (CR&CSM), and the local IPS representative stationed at the provincial CR&CSM office.
- Once a set of rapes and/or murders has been identified as a series, the office of the DPP should also be informed and a senior public prosecutor and/or senior state advocate involved in guiding the investigation of the cases. The DPP must be requested to initiate the court process to combine the cases under one prosecution.
 - A media liaison official from SAPS must be assigned to deal with the media enquiries in the area in which the crimes occurred. If necessary, a media liaison official can be appointed at Provincial and/or National Head Office. Ideally this should be a Provincial media liaison official as series tend to involve multiple stations and Provincial media liaison officials are more experienced in dealing with high profile cases. This would also allow for specific training to a handful of Provincial media liaison officials in how to deal with the media in serial investigations. Media enquiries dealing with the prosecution of cases should be handled by the NPA media officials.
 - In addition, the investigating officer must ensure that the National Prosecuting Authority is informed of any case prepared for trial, in which forensic investigative leads or information links the suspect to other cases.

5.1 Consolidation of cases and formation of investigation team

Once the relevant structures have been notified, the task teams established (as per the requirements of the regulations supporting the DNA Act) must investigate all cases.

- All linked cases, whether linked by forensic investigative leads, fingerprints, cell-phone data, modus operandi or facial composites (e.g. Identikits), must be consolidated under the FCS team (in the case of serial rape), or the provincial task team (in the case of serial murder). Allocating a series of cases to one detective should only be seen as a last resort where it is not possible to form a task team or allocate the cases to a task team. All cases must be centralised for investigation, irrespective of their nature (e.g. theft from motor vehicle), to avoid procedural errors that could lead to the release or escape of a suspect.
- Due to the serious and repetitive nature of these crimes the most experienced detectives trained in serial investigation must be placed in charge of these investigations. While this does not exclude junior members from being involved in the task team, the best detective must be in charge of the team.
- The task team must have a sole mandate to only deal with rapes or murders, or any other cases believed to be the work of the same serial suspect. The task team must not investigate dockets unrelated to the series and task-team members must be taken off standby duties for unrelated cases. They may only be on standby to attend to new cases believed to be the work of the same serial offender.
- The task team must coordinate their investigations across stations and provincial borders and between specialised investigative units. Where cases are cross-border task teams must obtain clarity from the DPP as to where cases will ultimately be tried.
- Members of CIAC must also be drawn into the investigation to analyse the modus operandi of other rapes and murders in their area of jurisdiction to determine if they are the work of the same offender. This will enable identification of other cases while DNA results are still pending, or where no DNA is submitted.
- In addition to human resources, the following material resources should be made available to the investigation:
 - Vehicles
 - Cell phones
 - Operations room (sole purpose) in a secure environment with restricted access
 - Computers
 - Cell phone tracing equipment

- **Prioritised DNA analysis**

5. INVESTIGATION OF SERIAL CASES

Certain investigative steps need to be taken to effectively investigate a series.

6.1 Identification of similar cases

DNA matching cannot be the only method employed to identify other cases that are the work of the same suspect.

- The task team must investigate the modus operandi in their cases and identify trends where the same modus operandi had been used, in order to link the same perpetrator. The investigating officer must report to the relevant task team instances where investigations or modus operandi link a suspect to different cases.
- The task team must search the docket store of surrounding police stations and ask colleagues if they have cases with a similar modus operandi. They must also review inquest dockets from the surrounding geographical areas.
- Cases closed as undetected but found to be linked by DNA matching or other methods (such as modus operandi) must be re-opened and included in the serial investigation even if the members of the task team did not originally investigate these cases. These cases often have valuable leads that were not properly followed up at the time.
- The task team must consult the Investigative Psychology Section to assist with the investigation to confirm any behavioural links between cases.
- All the dockets linked in a serial case or where an offender is involved in multiple offences, must be obtained and re-opened on the CAS/ICDMS.
- The CIAC office must check if there have been other rapes or murders in the same area. Dockets of assault, attempted rape, robbery, and even murders that occurred in the same geographical area of the linked cases must all be examined as they could be the work of the same suspect.
- The task team must check for missing person reports made at stations in close proximity to a series of murders. These reports may match unidentified bodies. The Victim Identification Centre (VIC) of the Forensic Services Division must be used to aid in the identification of unidentified bodies.

- Neighbouring stations should be instructed to alert the task team when relevant cases occur. When a series is being investigated the local detective branches must be notified to alert the task team should a murder victim with the same victimology be found nearby.
- All evidence must be considered and followed-up and a profile of the serial offender must be compiled.

5.2 Revisit the crime scene

- Serial offenders typically approach victims with a false story intended to gain their confidence. This often takes the form of an offer of employment which is used to lure the victim to a secluded place (usually a deserted part of the veld) where she is then raped. This creates two important locations that must be visited by the task team: the place where the suspect first met the victim and the place where the rape or murder occurred.
- Because serial rapists and serial murderers typically commit their crimes within a small geographic area, GPS plotting of all scenes and other relevant locations must be undertaken and aerial or satellite photos of the area obtained. The location of the crime scene must be recorded by means of GPS coordinates. Because suspects continue to use the same geographical area it can be placed under observation in expectation of the suspect's return.
- The areas surrounding serial murder cases must be searched manually and with SAPS Dog Units, as suspects often group their crime scenes nearby to each other.
- Members of the task team must revisit crime scenes with the victim to locate exhibits and determine precisely where the crime occurred. This is essential to look for evidence, such as condoms, semen, and tissues used by the suspect, and belongings of the victim that might have the suspect's fingerprints on them. The Biological Fluids Dog Unit can assist in locating exhibits that may have the suspect's semen on them.
- LCRC members must also accompany members of the task team to crime scenes and have been instructed to assist with all sexual offences investigations. They may not refuse their assistance.

- Re-visiting the crime scene is also important should a suspect later agree to do a pointing out after arrest. Because a suspect may only be arrested a year after the rape and the area may have changed significantly in the interim, it is essential that members of the task team visit the scene as soon as possible.

5.3 Murder Crime Scene Attendance and Autopsy Attendance

- All normal protocols and procedures must be effected regarding crime scenes.
- In cases of serial murder the forensic pathologist must be contacted immediately to attend the crime scene both to assist in determining the time of death, as well as to gather first-hand information that can aid in determining the cause of death.
- A Forensic Entomologist must be contacted where possible to examine the body and location for entomological evidence to aid the investigation.
- Where possible, members of VIC and IPS must be contacted to attend the crime scene.
- Members of the task team must attend post-mortem autopsies to aid the forensic pathologist in determining the cause and time of death and to obtain immediate feedback regarding these aspects instead of waiting for a post-mortem autopsy report. They must also ensure that the necessary evidence collection kits (e.g. SAECK) are available.
- Members of the LCRC must attend the autopsy to photographically document the autopsy and take control of any exhibits for dispatch to the relevant experts. The LCRC member who attended the scene of death must attend the autopsy. The LCRC member must also fingerprint the deceased for identification purposes.
- Members should, at all times, adhere to the Crime Scene Management Policy.

5.4 Exhibits

- All SAECKS and other exhibits must be sent to the FSL as soon as possible within the prescribed period to facilitate linkages between cases, not only once a suspect has been identified.
- When delivering further SAECKs and DNA buccal samples of possible suspects in a serial investigation the investigating officer must contact the "Serial DNA Team" at the FSL in Pretoria or Cape Town prior to delivering the exhibits and they will assist in the speedy processing of those exhibits without a prosecutor's

letter being necessary. The investigating officer must identify the case as a potential serial on the outside of the covering letter. The IPS may be contacted for these details.

- Detectives that have been trained as authorised persons must take the DNA buccal samples of persons arrested for Schedule 8 offences as per the DNA regulations. The DNA buccal samples must be submitted as soon as possible within the prescribed period to the FSL (Pretoria or Cape Town). These reference samples must be prioritised by FSL.
- Ensure the chain of custody is maintained. Ensure that all chain statements are obtained immediately, not later.

5.5 Cell phone investigations

- Most serial rapists or serial murderers take the victim's phone. Analysing the cell-phone information obtained via the s205 application thus plays an important role in furthering the investigation. The investigating officer must present a good preliminary investigation to the prosecutor to ensure the s205 application is successful.
- Detailed billing for the victim's number must be obtained from the day before the suspect made contact with the victim, up until the date of the s205 application. Sometimes the suspect uses the victim's phone and SIM card to make a call, before throwing away the victim's SIM card. The number that the suspect called can then also be identified by means of the s205 to see who it belongs to.
- Where the suspect replaces the victim's SIM card with his own SIM card that number must also be identified by means of a further s205.
- In addition to obtaining detailed billing for the SIM card(s), the investigating officer must also s205 a 'handset profile' for the actual stolen cell-phone for the same time period as the detailed billing. This will allow the investigating officer to determine which SIM cards have been used in the stolen phone. The victim does not need to know their IMEI number as this can be obtained from the detailed billing of the SIM card number. Detailed billing and a handset profile can also be obtained for a pay-as-you-go number.
- Detailed billing must not only be obtained, it must also be analysed.

- When a forensically relevant cell phone or SIM has been identified, the necessary experts in tracing cell phones must be contacted for assistance.

5.6 Maintain good contact with victims

- It is important to keep contact with surviving victims and meet victims from other linked cases and detectives must follow National Instruction 3/2008: Sexual Offences in this regard. It does not help to identify a suspect only to find that the victim is no longer interested in proceeding with the case, or is no longer traceable.
- All victims need to be re-interviewed and informed that their cases are still under investigation. Where inadequate statements were originally taken, new statements must be obtained.
- Investigating officers must provide victims with their contact details. Victims often see the suspect again because serial offenders use the same areas to commit future crimes. If this happens the victim is then able to contact the investigating officer and so assist in apprehending the suspect.
- Investigating officers should at a minimum send an SMS to victims once a week informing them that the case is still being investigated – even if there have been no developments in the investigation. This encourages victims both to remain in contact with SAPS and to proceed to trial once the suspect is arrested.
- It is very likely that at least some victims of serial rapists will not have reported their case to the SAPS. Investigating officers should liaise with the SAPS Communication Liaison Officers for information about the modus operandi, a facial composite (where one exists) and the contact details of the task team to be placed in the local newspaper, along with an appeal to other victims to come forward and open a case.
- It is the task team's responsibility to inform through the SAPS Communication Liaison Officers the public that a serial rapist or serial murderer is active in the area. This information can be conveyed to local newspapers, radio stations and television with the help of a SAPS Media Liaison, along with the appeal for other victims to come forward.

5.7 After Arrest

- Task teams investigating serial crimes should remain involved in the investigation until the DPP is satisfied that all enquires have been addressed and finalised. .
- Once a suspect has been identified and arrested his DNA buccal sample must be sent immediately to the FSL in Pretoria or Cape Town where all processing of DNA connected to serial crimes is undertaken. The investigating office must submit the confirmation DNA buccal sample to the FSL (Pretoria or Cape Town) as soon as possible within 14 days. The "Serial DNA Team" of the FSL should be contacted in advance and informed that the DNA buccal sample of the suspect is shortly to be delivered to their offices. This will ensure that the detective is met at the FSL reception area, which will help speed up the processing of the DNA results. These reference samples must be prioritised by the FSL.
- The investigating officer should inform the senior public prosecutor that a suspect in a serial matter has been arrested and will be applying for a bail. The bail application must be opposed and expert testimony around serial crimes also introduced during the hearing in consultation with the senior public prosecutor or relevant DPP office. The public prosecutor must also apply that all the linked cases be heard in court together
- The s212 reports issued by the forensic examiners in FDM can be used to arrest the perpetrator, to take a confirmation DNA buccal sample and oppose bail applications.
- Once a suspect has been arrested, investigating officers must find out where he previously lived and worked in order to determine if he committed similar cases in those areas, if DNA has not already linked him to such cases.

5.8 Identity parades

- Investigating officers must follow formal procedures guiding the identification of suspects. No informal identification procedures must be adopted, such as taking suspects to victims and asking if this is the correct suspect.

- Identification parades must be arranged which can also be used as evidence in court. Identity parades must be held as soon as possible as they can be used at a bail application.

5.9 Preparation for the trial

- It is essential that all cases linked to the same suspect be prosecuted together in one trial. This also improves the chances of obtaining a successful conviction and an appropriate sentence in line with the Minimum Sentences Act.
- Task team members must assist in preparing matters for court by conducting witness consultations and assisting witnesses to attend court.
- If cases are from different Magisterial areas then the prosecutor should be asked to make an application to centralise the cases for trial.
- Investigators must ensure that dockets are court-ready as soon as possible, including chain statements and all expert reports. Insofar as possible statements should be typed.
- Where there is no DNA but the modus operandi is the same, this can be presented as similar fact evidence to obtain convictions for those cases that are similar but where no physical evidence is available. The IPS can give evidence in this regard.

5.10 Sentencing

- Sentencing should include the presentation of expert evidence on the accused being a serial rapist or serial murderer and a significant danger to society. The IPS can give evidence in this regard.
- The comments of the Judge or Magistrate, along with any sentencing reports, must accompany the convicted offender to the Department of Correctional Services (DCS) and be placed on his file at DCS. This must accompany the SAP62 which must also be completed after conviction. This is important because one day the offender will appear before a parole board and unless this information is in the offender's file, the DCS' Parole Board will not be in a position to make a fully informed decision regarding the offender's release.