

Muldersdrift Serial Rapist

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Serial rapist suspect nabbed

GRAEME HOSKEN
CRIME REPORTER

A SUSPECTED serial rapist, potentially linked to the rape of more than 50 Gauteng women, was caught in a police sting operation in a toilet north of Joburg last night.

The man, who has so far been linked to six rapes and an attempted rape, was caught in Kya Sand by a team of detectives specialising in serial crime investigations and the Hawks tactical operational team.

The suspect is believed to be the "Muldersdrift Serial Rapist". He was caught two weeks after the police's Investigative Psychology Unit (IPU) was called in to help.

Police sources said the man allegedly began his rape spree in June last year. He will appear in court soon.

The man would allegedly lure his victims by answering their newspaper advertisements seeking jobs and promising them employment.

IPU head Colonel Gerard Labuschagne said the suspect had been caught after two weeks of intensive investigations.

"When we arrested him we recovered several items belonging to the victims," he said.

Labuschagne said the suspect had so far been linked to the rape of six women and the attempted rape of a woman on Friday.

"These women, who were attacked in the Nootgedacht area of Muldersdrift along the R512 near the N14, are from Hillbrow, Tembisa, Berea, and Sandspruit near Honeydew. We believe, however, that there are a lot more women from areas further from Johannesburg, including possibly Pretoria, who this man has potentially attacked.

"Our research shows that serial rapists have on average at least eight reported cases against them, and operate across two or three police station boundaries.

"Research by the Medical Research Council shows that only one in nine rapes are reported to the police," Labuschagne added.

"We believe, therefore, that this suspect has raped about 54 people."

Labuschagne said it was vital that anyone who believed they had been attacked by the suspect should call either himself on 082 770 5195 or Warrant Officer Breyties Breytenbach on 079 525 0893 urgently.