

Justice system negligent, says LHR head

Rudolph Jansen, national director of Lawyers for Human Rights, has labelled SA's criminal justice system as scandalous and negligent in his reaction to the case of Louis Emmanuel Sipoye, a Mozambican national who was released from a Pretoria prison last week.

According to an [SABC News](#) report, Sipoye spent more than a year behind bars, although the forensic evidence proved his innocence four months after his arrest. He was wrongly arrested for raping a 65-year-old woman, who was recovering from cancer, in the Pretoria Academic Hospital. The woman later died. Jansen says cases like these are a gross violation of human rights. He blamed the shortage of staff in the criminal justice system, the SA Police Service and the high case loads. Jansen says SA's prisons currently has about 50 000 awaiting trial prisoners and this could happen to thousands of people every year. [Full SABC News report](#)