Police concerned about rise in false rape accusations

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The Family Violence Child Protection and Sexual Offences Unit (FCS) within the Cluster of Bethlehem recently noticed a trend of people (mostly women) who lay charges of rape and other sexual offences that do not exist. According to Bethlehem Police, the accusations merely seek to spite or get revenge for some omission by those being accused.

“Those who lay false charges are warned that lying under oath is a criminal offence. You will be charged with perjury. It takes special skills and scarce
resources to investigate rape,” warns Bethlehem Cluster Commander, Major General Jan Tsotetsi.

“Rape remains one of the most sensitive crimes that can be committed against a human being. It must never be used to settle scores with partners and ex partners. This observation does not in any way give perpetrators the right to rape. Men must note that, regardless of the nature of their relationship, no one has the right to impose themselves on another without their consent, it is illegal and a serious violation of one’s privacy,” he added. – Pierce van Heerden

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