



## **South Africa: Men sentenced for illegal possession of elephant tusks in Gauteng**

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By Rising Sun

The Johannesburg Magistrates Court sentenced Innocent Tendere (35) and Shelton Zimizi (31), for illegal possession of elephant tusks, last week.

The sentencing came after they were found guilty of the said charges on October 9, 2023.

The accused were arrested on November 16, 2022, by the officers from Benoni K9 with the assistance of the Pretoria K9 after they were found in possession of three elephant tusks (ivory) at Oriental Plaza Burna.

Provincial police spokesperson, W/O N Rwexana explained that the matter was later transferred to the Germiston-based Serious Organised Crime Investigation for further exploration.

"The accused appeared in the Johannesburg Magistrates Court on December 2, 2022 and they were denied bail. They made several court appearances," said W/O Rwexana.

The accused were sentenced as follows:

First accused: R700, 000 fine or five years imprisonment.

Second accused: R700, 000 fine or five years imprisonment.