

R90 000 payout for wrongful arrest

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Johannesburg - A man who spent 18 months in prison after he was wrongly arrested will be paid R90 000 in damages, according to a report on Tuesday.

Eric Gosa, of Mamelodi, was arrested on 1 December 2008 after police suspected him of being in possession of a stolen car, [The Star](#) reported.

When the matter went to court, police admitted that their suspicion was based on the fact that the vehicle's battery was missing, and that Gosa was leaning against the car and looking into it.

Gosa initially wanted R653 000 from Police Minister Nathi Mthethwa, but Judge Billy Mothle of the North Gauteng High Court awarded him R90 000.

Mothle acknowledged that Gosa was humiliated when he was unlawfully arrested in front of his neighbours. Gosa also lost his job and his wife left him during his detention.