

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORT UMNYANGO WEZOKUTHUTHA

MEDIA STATEMENT

TO: TO ALL MEDIA DATE: 1 NOVEMBER 2010

ATTENTION: NEWS EDITORS/REPORTERS AND PR WIRES

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4 KILLED AND 11 AT LARGE AFTER ROBBING FIDELITY GUARD CAR

MEC for Transport Community Safety and Liaison Mr. Willies Mchunu applauds the swift action of law enforcers today (01/11/2010) at 09:30 am in Ndwedwe where 15 men robbed a Fidelity vehicle, which was on route to a pension pay point

Preliminary reports reveal that 15 armed men with AK47's, R5'S and hand guns robbed a Fidelity car of an undisclosed amount and fled the scene in four cars, two known to be a Nissan 1400 and a Ford Bantam. The robbers then drove towards Inanda. The police were on the lead and a chopper was monitoring the cars on the ground together with the Cluster Crime Unit in Pinetown, Dog Unit and Organized Crime Unit tactical team. While still en route fleeing from the police four of the suspects hijacked a Quantum that operates within the Inanda area.

The four suspects drove into an unknown household where they occupied a shack in the backyard. Members of the SAPS closed in on the suspects and an exchange of gunfire ensued. All four suspects were shot dead in the crossfire. An R5 gun, four hand guns, and two boxes of money wrapped in a plastic bag were recovered.

11 other suspects related to the incident are still at large, and when found by police will face charges of armed robbery with aggravated circumstances, attempted murder against SAPS members and car-jacking. An inquest docket has been opened and the investigations on this matter will be taken over by the Hawks.

"I wish to applaud our men in uniform for their swift reaction towards criminals. Government is serious about fighting crime and criminals should not be given a chance to do as they wish. The 11 suspects that are still at large can run all they want but they will be found, hence members of the SAPS and the Hawks are working around the clock to apprehend them," said Mchunu.

Media Contact: Kwanele Ncalane 072 803 1462/ 079 699 5755

Internet: http://www.kzntransport.gov.za Intranet: http://home.kzntransport.gov.za