



PROVINCE OF KWAZULU - NATAL - ISIFUNDAZWE SAKWAZULU - NATALI

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORT
UMNYANGO WEZOKUTHUTHA

MEDIA STATEMENT

TO: ALL MEDIA

DATE: 07 JULY 2011

MEC MCHUNU CONDEMNS THE SHOOTING AND KILLING OF
MPUMALANGA TAXI OPERATOR

MEC for Transport, Community Safety and Liaison Mr. Willies Mchunu strongly condemns the shooting and killing of Mpumalanga taxi operator Mr. Mhlonishwa Ngubane yesterday (06/07/2011) afternoon in Hammarsdale.

Preliminary reports reveal that Ngubane and two other men were travelling in a private car along Sibisi Road at Hammarsdale when unknown men shot at them. Ngubane and the one of the men were killed on the scene and the third one sustained gunshot wounds, and was taken to the nearest clinic. A murder case has been opened pending investigations.

This is subsequent to the negotiations the Department is having with Mpumalanga taxi operators on the matter regarding legal and illegal operators in the area. It is however, too early to predict the reason for the shooting. The Department has started processes to engage with the structures at Mpumalanga. The court had ordered MEC Mchunu to appoint an arbitrator on the matter. The meeting was scheduled to take place tomorrow, where the arbitrator was going to make the decision which was going to go to court for the final decision.

"I would like to send my deepest condolences to the family of the deceased. I would also like to urge the people to calm down and not take law in their hands because there are ongoing talks regarding the matter. Boardrooms should be used as a place to solve problems not battle fields. The police will not rest until the perpetrators are brought to book", said Mchunu.

ENDS

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