



MEDIA STATEMENT

TO: ALL MEDIA

DATE: 28 JULY 2011

MEC MCHUNU SENDS DELEGATION TO INTERVENE IN THE SYDENHAM POLITICAL INTOLERANCE ISSUE

KZN MEC for Transport, Community Safety and Liaison Mr. Willies Mchunu has sent his delegation from the Department of Community Safety to intervene in the Sydenham political intolerance issue at a meeting held yesterday (28/07/2011) at Sydenham Police Station.

The discussions were held between ANC and IFP members, where a conflict arose between two individuals. The meeting was dispersed due to the situation becoming unsafe in the area. It is alleged that due to the disagreements there was destabilization in the area resulting in people leaving their homes for safety reasons. Some shacks were demolished and some IFP members sought safety at the police station. Cases were opened for malicious damage to property and arrests were made. The discussion concluded by having IFP members taken back to their residences away from the station. It was also resolved that people will be assisted with building material by eThekweni council and there will be a further meeting to update the community with regards to the developments in the area.

“People should not be chased away from their homes because of minor conflicts that can be resolved verbally. It is true, sometimes people do not always see eye to eye but that does not necessarily mean people must damage property and burn houses. We have deployed police from the public order policing to ensure that people are safe and to restore stability in the area,” said Mchunu.

Ends

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