



community safety &
liaison

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Community Safety and Liaison
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MEDIA ALERT

TO : ALL MEDIA
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ATTENTION : NEWS EDITORS/REPORTERS AND PR WIRE

MCHUNU WELCOMES THE DECLINE ON CASES OF SUSPECTS DYING ON THE HANDS OF POLICE

The MEC for Transport, Community Safety and Liaison, Mr Willies Mchunu has welcomed the decline on cases of suspects dying on the hands of the police in KZN by the Independent Complaints Directorate yesterday (29/09/2011).

The report has revealed that eighty percent of death occurred during the commission of a crime, during an escape (or attempt), during arrest or during investigation. Most of the deaths as a result of police action occurred during arrest, this is especially the case in KwaZulu-Natal, where eighty seven (87) deaths occurred under such circumstances. Deaths in police custody amounted to 32 percent of all deaths, whereas deaths as a result of police action accounted for 68 percent. Thirty one percent of all deaths occurred in KwaZulu-Natal. Gauteng experienced the second highest proportion at 23 percent.

“I would like to welcome the report by the ICD which indicates the decline of cases as a result of police action. I would like to underline that most of these cases happen on crime scenes or when police are facing difficult situations and they are forced to retaliate to protect themselves and those around them. We would like to urge the criminals to surrender when the police are around to avoid confrontation. I would like to mobilize the communities to defend the police at all times especially when faced with dangerous criminals” said Mchunu.

ENDS.

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