

## MEDIA UPDATE

TO DATE ATTENTION : ALL MEDIA : 21 November 2011

: NEWS EDITORS/REPORTERS AND PR WIRE

## MCHUNU WELCOMES THE 40YEAR SENTENCE BY PIETEMARITZBURG HIGH COURT

KZN MEC for Transport, Community Safety and Liaison, Mr Willies Mchunu has welcomed the confessions of a hired hit man (Mduduzi Kunene) and that has lead to the arrest of the second hit man and three other suspects suspected of conspiracy.

It is alleged that at about 22h00 on the 24<sup>th</sup> of October 2011, a business man (Bongani Thwala) and his fiancé (Nokuthula Khanyile) were killed at their shop in Bilanyoni in Dumbe, as they were getting ready to close. The hit men opened fire and shot them dead.

On Thursday (17 November 2011) Kunene confessed at the Paul Pietersburg Magistrate court that he was hired to kill Thwala and His fiancé. Following his confession three other suspects who are believed to have masterminded the plot were also arrested.

Today (21 November 2011) the Pietermaritzburg High Court sentenced Kunene to 40 years in prison.

MEC Mchunu welcomed the sentence

"This judgment should serve as a lesson to all those who are killing innocent people. Criminals have no space in our society and we must all work together to defeat them. I commend the police for the good work and thorough investigations on the case. I want to also make a special appeal to all those who are hired to kill other people to confess to the police before committing such crimes so that the conspirators can be dealt with by the law", said Mchunu. Ends

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