



MEDIA ALERT

TO : ALL MEDIA
DATE : 13 December 2011
ATTENTION : NEWS EDITORS/REPORTERS AND PR WIRE

MCHUNU SHOCKED AT DEATH OF POLICE OFFICER FOLLOWING A SHOOT-OUT WITH SUSPECTS

KZN MEC for Transport, Community Safety and Liaison, Mr Willies Mchunu, has expressed shock at the death of 35 year old Constable Njabulo Sikhakhane following a shooting with suspects.

It is alleged that on Monday, 12 December 2011, at about 09:00 three suspects one armed with a firearm entered a shop in the Wentworth area where they robbed staff of an undisclosed amount of cash and a cellular phone. The three fled on foot and got into a mini bus taxi.

Two police officers from Brighton Beach SAPS were on patrol when members of the public flagged them down.

Police were given information about the robbery, a description of the mini-bus taxi that the suspects had boarded as well as a description of the suspects.

The two policemen immediately followed the route the taxi took and spotted the taxi at the entrance of Wentworth Hospital. Police officers stopped the taxi and instructed the suspects to surrender.

One of the suspects was armed and opened fire on the policemen hitting one of them on the neck.

Sikhakhane was taken to hospital in a serious condition where he passed away a short while later. A second suspect was arrested, whilst the third fled the scene during the shoot-out.

Mchunu expressed his disappointment at the death of Constable Sikhakhane

“I am disappointed at the death of Constable Sikhakhane who died in the line of duty. The death of our police officers is unacceptable. I commend him for his bravery that he showed. I appeal to the community who might have any information regarding the whereabouts of the other suspect to come forth and volunteer with the information. I would like to send my condolences to the Sikhakhane family. As government we will continue to intensify our campaign against police killings. We call on communities to protect and defend police”, said Mchunu.

The seized firearm will be sent to our Ballistics Unit to determine if it has been used in the commission of any other crime. The arrested man will be charged for robbery with aggravating circumstances and will appear in Wentworth Court soon.

Ends.

MEDIA CONTACT: Kwanele Ncalane on 072 803 1462 or 0796995155