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MEDIA ALERT

TO : ALL MEDIA
DATE : 14 SEPTEMBER 2012
ATTENTION : NEWS EDITORS/REPORTERS AND PR WIRE

MCHUNU SHOCKED AT DEATH OF ANOTHER TAXI OPERATOR AT EFOLWENI.

MEC for Transport, Community Safety and Liaison, Mr. Willies Mchunu has expressed shock at the death of another taxi operator at eFolweni.

It is alleged that yesterday (13 September 2012), at about 8:30 am, a group of unknown men opened fire at iSphingo Taxi Rank.

Sakhephi Mark Mkhize (59) from eFolweni was shot and died on the scene. The motive of the killing is still unknown and no arrests have been made.

Mchunu vowed that police will get to the bottom of this case and the perpetrators will soon account for their deeds.

Mchunu strongly condemns the on-going killing of taxi operators in the province as this possesses a potential of instability in the industry.

"We condemn the on-going killing in the taxi industry. Incidence of this nature once again proves that there is a need to transform the mindset of those working in the taxi industry. Recently the provincial government hosted a Taxi Indaba with the aim of soliciting inputs from different stakeholders to try and put an end to the violence and instability in the Taxi industry. The continuous killing of taxi operators confirms our recommendation to the taxi indaba that the National Prosecuting Authority must consider establishing a special court to deal with taxi related violence. We also feel strongly that there is a need for reviving the Police Taxi Violence Unit. I would like to send my condolences to Mkhize family," said Mchunu.

Ends

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