

Private Bag X9143, Pietermaritzburg, 3200 179 Jabu Ndlovu, Pietermaritzburg, 3201 Tel: (033) 341 9300 (Switchboard) Fax: (033) 342 6345

## **MEDIA ALERT**

TO : ALL MEDIA

DATE : 12 SEPTEMBER 2012

ATTENTION : NEWS EDITORS/REPORTERS AND PR WIRE

## MCHUNU IS FURIOUS BY CRUELTY AGAINST SENIOR CITIZENS.

KZN MEC for Transport, Community Safety and Liaison Mr Willies Mchunu is deeply angered at incidents of rape of senior citizens.

Yesterday (11 September 2012) at around 00:00 am, a 70-year old senior citizen was repeatedly raped at her home at eMantungwaneni in Mandeni. This incident happened in front of her three grandchildren who were present but didn't know what to do as the suspect was carrying a knife and he frightened them with it.

Mchunu commended the partnership of police and the community which led to an immediate arrest yesterday. The suspect (35) is expected to appear at Eshowe Magistrate court soon.

This is the sixth incident to happen this year following the two incidents at KwaSayimane, one at uMgungundlovu, one at uThukela another one at eXobho.

Mchunu also expressed concern on the escalation of crime targeting senior citizens.

"I am deeply angered by these criminals targeting senior citizens. As government we value our elders but these kinds of incidents display a loss of Ubuntu and they are barbaric. As government we are committed to protect our senior citizens. We appeal to the communities to report incidents of this nature and work with the police in finding perpetrators," said Mchunu.

Ends

Media Contact: Kwanele Ncalane on 072 803 1462 or 079 699 5755.