



## community safety & liaison

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Community Safety and Liaison  
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### MEDIA ALERT

TO : ALL MEDIA  
DATE : 08 OCTOBER 2012  
ATTENTION : NEWS EDITORS/REPORTERS AND PR WIRE

### MEC MCHUNU APPEALS FOR CALM AND POLITICAL TOLERANCE AT KWAMASHU.

KZN MEC for Transport, Community Safety and Liaison, Mr Willies Mchunu, has appealed for calm and restraint at the KwaMashu hostel following the abduction and the killing of the IFP councillor.

Yesterday (07/10/12) Mchunu held a high level meeting with the police top brass and leaders of the IFP and NFP.

The meeting was to seek solutions and mechanisms to address violence that erupted in the KwaMashu hostel since the abduction of IFP councillor, Themba Xulu on Saturday morning.

Xulu was murdered and his body was found outside Verulam, Durban. In two other separate incidents a woman and police officer were also killed yesterday in the hostel.

The KwaMashu hostel has been a highly contested territory between the IFP and the NFP since 2011 local government elections.

It is alleged that is the stand-off between the two political parties that fuelled the tensions that led to the outbreak of violence in the hostel over the weekend.

Commenting after the meeting, Mchunu condemned violent activities in the hostel but assured the people that heavy police have been deployed to monitor the situation.

**“It is unacceptable that after so many years into democracy, we are still witnessing violence in the province. Police management has, however, assured us of the additional police deployment in the area. I am confident that police will soon make a breakthrough on the Xulu murder. I also welcome the commitment by leaders of both the NFP and IFP to work for peace and stability in the hostel.**

**“I appeal for calm and tolerance in the area as police are working tirelessly to find perpetrators. I also want to call on people to refrain from taking law into their own hands as this will deepen divisions and heighten tensions,”** said Mchunu.

Mchunu also made a strong appeal to all political parties to cooperate with the police investigation to all political related killings in the province.

Recently police have made breakthroughs in high profile cases including the recent murder case of the ANC councillor in Chatsworth, the suspect has been arrested and expected to appear in the court today.

In the murder of two oShabeni ANC leaders, two suspects were arrested. One has been found guilty and sentenced to 22 years by the Pietermaritzburg court while the other one has a pending case in court.

Mchunu attributed to this to the willingness by the police to double their efforts in resolving the perceived politically motivated cases.

Ends.

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