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MEDIA ALERT

TO : ALL MEDIA
DATE : 21ST OCTOBER 2012
ATTENTION : NEWS EDITORS/REPORTERS AND PR WIRE

MCHUNU CALL ON THE DE-POLITICIZATION OF THE COMMUNITY POLICING FORUMS IN KWAZULU-NATAL

KZN MEC for Transport, Community Safety and Liaison, Willies Mchunu has called on the de-politicization of the Community Policing Forum (CPF), if communities were to participate meaningfully in the fight against crime.

Mchunu made this clarion call yesterday (20 October 2012), when he was addressing the CPF Annual General Meeting (AGM) held in Durban.

Mchunu argued that CPF's are dysfunctional because they are turned into parallel political structures of a dominant political party in other parts of the province.

"If we are serious about revamping CPF's and strengthening community participation in the fight against crime, we must take politics out of this important crime fighting structure. Where ANC is dominating, the CPF will be dominated by the ANC. Where the IFP or DA is dominating, the CPF will be dominated by their members. CPF's are a forum therefore all structures in the society must be represented for them to function effectively," said Mchunu.

Yesterday, the CPF AGM adopted a new constitution which is going to ensure the effectiveness of the structure and hold those elected to lead accountable.

The previous constitution had lot of discrepancies which were making it impossible for the CPF's to function correctly.

Mchunu commended those who were behind the new constitution, saying the fight against crime is now gaining momentum.

"Community participation is very key in the fight against crime. CPF's are very central in ensuring maximum participation by all role players in the community. I welcome the newly elected board as they are joining us to build a united front against crime," said Mchunu.

The new CPF board members are:

Mr Desmond Mntambo: Chairperson

Miss Celiwe Magaiyane: Deputy Chairperson

Mr John De Jesus: Treasurer

Mr Mbuso Shobede: Secretary

Mrs Lindi Khumalo : Deputy Secretary

Mr Linda Khumalo: Public Relations Officer

Three additional Members: Mr Vusi Gcabashe, Mr Mandla Zikhali and Mrs Nomusa Mqwebu

Ends

For more info contact, Kwanele Ncalane: 079 699 5755 or 072 803 1462.