



MEDIA UPDATE

TO : ALL MEDIA
DATE : 25 January 2012
ATTENTION : NEWS EDITORS/REPORTERS AND PR WIRE

KZN DOT MEETS WITH DISPUTING TAXI ASSOCIATIONS IN THE SOUTH COAST

KZN MEC for Transport, Community Safety and Liaison, Mr Willies Mchunu has welcomed the outcomes from the meeting between the department of Transport and the three disputing associations in the South Coast.

The meeting was held earlier today at the Umkhomazi Police station (25 January 2012).

The three disputing associations namely Thuthukani, Vulamehlo and Umkhomazi agreed to resolve their dispute peacefully.

It was also established in the meeting that the working agreement between Thuthukani and Umkhomazi was illegal and should be withdrawn immediately. This includes the working agreement between these associations to operate the route between Umkhomazi and amaHlongwa.

This working agreement by the two associations was never endorsed by the department.

It also emerged at the meeting that Umkhomazi taxi association is also suffering from deep internal divisions.

The department will, on Monday 30 January 2012, send officials from the department to meet with Umkhomazi association in order to further establish whether or not they still

Media Liaison & Public Relations Directorate

Street Address: 172 Burger Street, Pietermaritzburg, 3201 Republic of South Africa
Postal Address: Private Bag X9043, Pietermaritzburg, 3200 Republic of South Africa
Tel: (27) (33) 355 8624 Fax: (27) (33) 355 8632
Internet: <http://www.kzntransport.gov.za/home.htm>

qualify to be categorized as an association following a thorough audit on the state of their membership.

Mchunu said police will be deployed in the area until the department is convinced the situation has returned to normal

“The team from Public Transport met with the associations. It was established that the working agreement between Thuthukani and UMkhomazi was illegal and should be withdrawn immediately and they should go back to their original routes. We will also have another meeting on Monday 30 January 2012 to zoom in on internal matters affecting Umkhomazi Taxi association. I would like to assure the community that the police will continue to monitor the situation until it goes back to normal. The police will also investigate the death of Phumlani Ndaba and appeal to the community to work with the police to ensure the perpetrators are brought to book. We all have a responsibility to maintain peace and stability in the taxi industry”, said Mchunu.

Ends

MEDIA CONTACT: Kwanele Ncalane on 072 803 1462 or 0796995755

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