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## **MEDIA ALERT**

TO : ALL MEDIA

DATE : 14 OCTOBER 2013

ATTENTION : NEWS EDITORS/REPORTERS AND PR WIRE

## MEC MCHUNU CONDEMNS THE SHOOTING OF POLICE OFFICERS IN BULWER

KWAZULU-Natal MEC for Transport, Community Safety and Liaison, Mr Willies Mchunu, has strongly condemned the shooting on police officers in Bulwer this weekend, saying police were the only shield between defense-less communities and criminals.

Two constables from Bulwer police station were allegedly shot and wounded by the suspects during the robbery at Bulwer area. The wounded police were taken to hospital for treatment and are in a stable condition.

On Sunday, (13 October 2013) at approximately 14:00 a Chinese shop was robbed by about 15 suspects who were heavily armed with rifles and pistols.

The police were alerted and responded to a robbery in progress. On arrival, two constables were attacked and shot by the suspects who were still at the scene.

The two constables were shot on their legs and their firearms were taken. The suspects took an undisclosed amount from the shop as well as airtime vouchers and chocolates before they fled in their getaway Colt bakkie.

As they were fleeing away from the scene, they allegedly hijacked another vehicle, a Corsa bakkie in the area and fled. A back-up was called and the police started to look for the suspects. Later two vehicles, a Colt and a Corsa bakkie were found abandoned in the area.

The suspects fled into the nearby bushes and disappeared. Stolen goods were also found including cash. No arrest made and a case of business robbery, attempted murder and carjacking were opened at Bulwer police station.

Today (Monday, October 14, 2013) MEC Mchunu strongly condemned the attack on the cop, urging communities help the police to trace and arrest those responsible for this attack.

"Police officers offer critical service to the communities and are the only line of defense between the communities and the heartless criminals.

"An attack on police is an attack against the Government and the communities. Those responsible for this will face the full might of the law," said Mchunu.

He also commended the police for putting their lives in danger in order to stop these criminals from carrying out their nefarious objectives.

"We commend the police for coming into the defense of law and order. I also wish them a speedily recovery from wounds suffered during this attack", said Mchunu.

## Ends

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