



community safety &
liaison

Department :
Community Safety and Liaison
PROVINCE OF KWAZULU-NATAL

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

MEDIA STATEMENT

TO : ALL MEDIA

DATE : 13 August 2013

ATTENTION : NEWS EDITORS/REPORTERS AND PR WIRE

MCHUNU APPALLED AT CONTINUED KILLINGS IN KWANONGOMA

KZN MEC for Transport, Community Safety and Liaison, Mr Willies Mchunu, condemns the brutal killing of two people in KwaNongoma this morning in what is believed be part of on-going faction fighting in eMatheni village.

According to the police report, today at around 07h30 am, two males were shot and killed at Sigubudu village in eMatheni traditional community, outside KwaNongoma.

The motive of the killing is however, not clear at this stage but police have been deployed to monitor the situation in the area.

Mchunu today said he was disturbed at this on-going conflict and killings despite several attempts by the Department of Community Safety and Liaison to broker lasting peace.

Reports indicate that Mr Bhande Khumalo and Bhobho Sibiya were attacked by a group of unknown assailants.

The late Buthelezi is reportedly related to the Buthelezi family of Matshemhlophe in eMatheni.

The fight, which initially involved two families (Sibiya and Buthelezi) operating taxi businesses in the area, has since engulfed the whole eMatheni Traditional Community with the locals being forced to choose sides between the two warring groups.

At least more than 20 people have been killed in this conflict with others being shot dead in Gauteng.

Mchunu said today he was appalled and these ongoing killings and the disruption of normal life because of the fighting in the area.

Mchunu, this week (Friday, August 16, 2013) will lead a high level intervention team, also expressed disappointment at this unfortunate development.

“My call goes to the parties involved in this conflict to give the current peace initiative underway an opportunity to bring stability and lasting peace in the area.”

“The unfortunate ongoing loss of life in the area undermines our commitment to work towards a lasting peace in the area,” said Mchunu.

He also extended his heartfelt condolences to the bereaved families and recommitted his department and the SAPS to doing everything possible to resolve this conflict.

Mchunu noted that one of the key drivers of this conflict was the proliferation of illegal weapons in the area which further fuels the conflict.

A multi-disciplinary team of detectives has been assembled and tasked to study all cases, including removing illegal firearms circulating in the community.

Ends

Media Contact : Kwanele Ncalane
: 072 803 1462/079 6995755
: Kwanele.Ncalane@kzntransport.gov.za

or

Sipho Khumalo @082-682-6437
, Sipho.Khumalo@comsafety.gov.za