



MEDIA UPDATE

TO : ALL MEDIA
DATE : 12 June 2013
ATTENTION : NEWS EDITORS/REPORTERS AND PR WIRE

MEC MCHUNU COMMENDS POLICE FOR MAKING A BREAKTHROUGH IN THE MUDEN MASSACRE

KZN MEC for Transport, Community Safety and Liaison, Mr. Willies Mchunu, has commended and applauded the good work done by the police in swiftly apprehending suspects in the murder of members of the Mkhize family in Muden.

Reports reveal that on the 9th of March 2013 unknown assassins, posing as police force members, insisted on searching the Mkhize household for fire arms. Upon entering the household, they opened fire and left seven family members dead.

At the time, Mchunu strongly condemned this brutal act and vowed to leave no stone unturned in finding these merciless killers.

After lengthy and intensive police investigations, yesterday (11 June 2013) three suspects were arrested in a move that constitutes a major breakthrough in this murder. These suspects will face seven murder charges and two counts of attempted murder. They will appear in the Greytown Magistrates' Court in due course.

"I would like to applaud the good work done by the police. This is an indicator that no one is above the law and such breakthroughs further cement the commitment by the police in apprehending wrong doers. While it is important for justice to prevail, we hope the evidence will be enough for these suspects to get a conviction for this heinous crime. I, however, still have serious concerns at the proliferation and circulation of illegal firearms within uMsinga and other communities."

"As the Government we recommit ourselves in intensifying the campaign of rooting out all illegal firearms. We also urge the communities to surrender their illegal firearms and also alert authorities of any illegal activities in their area. We hope the Mkhize family will find closure once all suspects are convicted,"
said Mchunu.

Immediately after this cold-blooded massacre, MEC Mchunu together with the Provincial Commissioner, assembled a task team to specifically investigate and recover illegal fire arms in the area. This has resulted in scores of firearms being recovered and stock thieves suspects arrested.

Ends

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