



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 INVITE

TO : ALL MEDIA
DATE : 20 May 2013
ATTENTION : NEWS EDITORS/REPORTERS AND PR WIRE

**POLICE MINISTER NATHI MTHETHWA AND MEC WILLIES MCHUNU VISIT
VIOLENCE-TORN ESTCOURT IN KZN MIDLANDS.**

A high level government delegation, including the Minister of Police Mr. Nathi Mthethwa and his KwaZulu-Natal counterpart, MEC for Transport, Community Safety and Liaison, Mr. Willies Mchunu, will tomorrow (May 21, 2013) visit Estcourt, in KZN Midlands, to intervene in the ongoing political violence that has engulfed areas around this town for almost two years now.

The visit and intervention by this high level government delegation comes in the wake of increasing incidents of attacks on political office bearers and ordinary members of the community.

In the recent past several people have been killed and injured in attacks either triggered by interparty or intraparty political conflicts. These are largely fuelled by contest for the control of political turfs and various forms of power struggles within different political parties.

Minister Mthethwa and MEC Mchunu will visit the area tomorrow to meet a number of stakeholders with a view to diffusing the political tension and to work towards a climate of free political activity and political tolerance.

Among others, Minister Mthethwa and MEC Mchunu will meet and be briefed by the senior police leadership in the area, assess the situation and seek to recommit political parties to the urgent need for political tolerance and free political activity.

The government leadership will also meet the Multiparty Political Oversight Committee- a body made out of all leadership of political parties operating in the affected areas- with a view of brokering a lasting and sustainable peace in the affected areas.

After this visit, the two government leaders will brief members of the media on the way forward towards a lasting political settlement.

THE DETAILS ARE AS FOLLOWS:

Date: 21 May 2013

Time: 10:00 am

Venue: Blueways Country Lodge (Estcourt)

All media houses are invited to attend.

Ends

Media Contact: Kwanele Ncalane on 072 803 1462 or 079 699 5155