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## **MEDIA ALERT**

TO : ALL MEDIA

DATE : 14 August 2013

ATTENTION : NEWS EDITORS/REPORTERS AND PR WIRE

## MEC MCHUNU APPLAUDS POLICE FOR ARRESTING FIVE SUSPECTS AROUND DURBAN

THE MEC for Transport, Community Safety and Liaison, Willies Mchunu, has applauded police for arresting five suspects around Durban who are linked to a number of crimes in the Greater Durban.

Today (14 August 2013) police arrested five suspects aged between 34 and 36 in Ntuzuma, Umlazi and KwaDabeka for different cases ranging from vehicle hijackings, house robberies, armed robberies and possession of unlicensed firearms.

It is alleged that during the month of July these suspects committed house robberies, hijackings and motor vehicle thefts in the Isipingo area.

In one house, police alleged that the suspects robbed a house in Isipingo where they took R60 000, Toyota Fortuner, Kia Sonata, four cellphones and an amplifier.

In another incident in July suspects allegedly robbed a house in Isipingo and took a Toyota Fortuner, R7000 and plasma screen. All the vehicles taken from both house robberies were recovered at Umlazi G section where the suspects had abandoned them following a hot pursuit by the police.

Police also recovered eight cell phones, a laptop, plasma screen and a Z88 pistol, which was stolen from a police officer in Chatsworth.

The suspects are expected to appear in the Durban Magistrates' Court on Friday, 16 August 2013.

Mchunu has commended the police for work well done in arresting these suspects, urging communities in the province that they should work with the police to close down the space for criminals.

"It is the kind of this operation that gives hope to the people that, indeed, our men and women in blue uniform will work around the clock to clean our province of criminals."

"As a Department, we welcome these arrests and believe that the law will take its course soon. I also applaud the police for the work well done. Let us work together to defeat crime and criminals in KwaZulu-Natal," says Mchunu

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