



# transport

Department:  
Transport  
Province of KwaZulu-Natal

## MEDIA LIAISON AND PUBLIC RELATIONS

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### MEDIA STATEMENT

TO : ALL MEDIA  
DATE : 22 MAY 2014  
ATTENTION : EDITORS, NEWS EDITORS AND PR WIRES

### MEC MCHUNU LAYS DOWN THE LAW IN MEETING WITH SECURITY INDUSTRY AUTHORITY

**The MEC for Transport, Community Safety and Liaison, Mr. Willies Mchunu**, has called on the Private Security Industry Regulatory Authority (PSIRA) to assist in reigning-in security companies which are supplying hitmen in the industry instead of helping to stabilise areas rocked by taxi violence.

Mchunu met with representatives of PSIRA today in Durban and explained that it was urgent and critical to rid the taxi industry of security companies in view of their role in stirring up conflict. A follow-up meeting to iron out all concerns has been scheduled for next week.

Recently areas rocked by conflict over taxi routes, which led to killings and threatened lives of commuters that include Ntuzuma, Maphumulo and KwaDukuza, have complained that security companies were now terrorising commuters.

For example, commuters and innocent citizens were caught in the cross fire and became victims of stray bullets in Ntuzuma last year whilst people's houses were damaged in Darnall.

Communities have also raised concerns that security guards openly carry heavy firearms at taxi ranks thereby terrorising passengers and children.

Mchunu said PSIRA could not be left out of the process if the drive to uproot criminal elements from security companies and the taxi industry was to succeed.

**"As the Department of Transport we want to have a joint and collective approach that involves all role players in combating taxi violence once and for all. We acknowledge that security companies have a role to play in the taxi industry, but want them to work within the confinement of the law. We will work with the police and PSIRA to intensify our law enforcement and stop the conflict and violence. Security companies must know that there are severe consequences if they act outside of the law,"** said Mchunu.

Ends.

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