



# transport

Department:  
Transport  
Province of KwaZulu-Natal

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## **MEC WILLIES MCHUNU SHOCKED AT THE BRUTAL MURDER OF THREE PEOPLE IN EZAKHENI, LADYSMITH**

KWAZULU-Natal MEC for Transport, Community Safety and Liaison, Willies Mchunu has learnt with shock and pain of yet another incident of killing in eZakheni, Ladysmith following the brutal murder of three people on Friday night.

According to the police four people who are all employees of the Roots Butchery in eZakheni plaza, were attacked on their way from work.

At around 20h30 last night, it is reported that while the employees were on Rolihlahla Street, unknown assailants opened fire, killing three occupants on the scene. One person sustained multiple gunshot wounds and was rushed to the nearest hospital.

The motive for this killing is not known at this stage and police indicated that no personal belongings were taken from the victims.

A total of 16 cartridges of a 9 mm pistol were found on the scene and the vehicle had about 13 bullet holes.

Mchunu reacted with shock at this incident, expressing the Government's concerns at the increasing levels of crime in eZakheni. He also appealed to the community to work with the police.

**"I have no doubt that the long arm of the law will soon catch up with the perpetrators. It is unacceptable that people can be brutally murdered in this fashion. We are concerned at the increasing number of violent crimes in eZakheni and Greater Ladysmith. We condemn this killing and as the Government we wish to send our deepest condolences to all the affected families and a speedy recovery to the one employee that was hospitalized,"** said Mchunu.

Recently, MEC Mchunu was in eZakheni following two major incidents that led to the death of 15 people. The shooting of the Mercedes Benz in Pieters road, resulted in the death of one female occupant. This shooting led to the collision involving a taxi and a truck, which killed 9 people.

**"The arrest and recovery of firearms is a sequel to the interventions by the Government and the police. The situation was beginning to stabilize in eZakheni with the arrest of the main suspect and the issuing of warrants of arrests for the two suspects. "The latest incident, has indeed, taken us all by surprise."**

**"Even though there is nothing suggesting that the two incidents are connected it is worrisome that there is a high level of crime and illegal firearms in the hands of the people in this township. Police are deployed to monitor the situation in the area and we will continue**

**engaging the community to disown criminals. We appeal for calm and order in eZakheni,”** said Mchunu.

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