



transport

Department:
Transport
Province of KwaZulu-Natal

MEDIA LIAISON AND PUBLIC RELATIONS

MEDIA STATEMENT

TO: ALL MEDIA
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ATTENTION: EDITORS and NEWS EDITORS

MEC MCHUNU COMMENDS STRONG PARTNERSHIP BETWEEN THE POLICE AND COMMUNITY AFTER THE KILLING OF A TAXI DRIVER IN EMPANGENI

The KwaZulu-Natal MEC for Transport, Community Safety and Liaison, Mr. Willies Mchunu, has commended the good work of the police who apprehending wanted suspects following the killing of a taxi driver in eMpangeni.

Preliminary reports reveal that, on Monday, 10 November 2015 at about 16h00, a minibus taxi was travelling along R34 passing Empangeni, when two passengers asked the driver to stop.

The driver (38) stopped and the suspects opened fire at him. The suspects allegedly fled the scene on foot after committing this crime.

A vigilant off-duty police officer from Eshowe was also travelling on R34 towards Eshowe, when he noticed two males running away from the minibus taxi and he suspected that something was wrong. He quickly investigated the matter and found that two men had shot and killed the taxi driver.

The police officer gave chase to the suspects with an assistance of the member of the community. He apprehended one suspect who was in possession of a revolver with three live rounds of ammunition.

The suspect (29) will be charged for murder and possession of unlicensed firearm and ammunition. He will appear at Ngwelezane Magistrates' Court soon. The motive of the killing is unknown at the stage. The firearm will be subjected for ballistic testing to ascertain if it was used in the commission of any other crime.

Mchunu commended the swift reaction by the police and urged them to work to continue working around the clock in looking for the remaining suspect.

"We would like to commend the swift work by the police. We appeal to all member of the community to work with the police in finding the remaining suspect. As government we will continue to ensure that we strengthen working relations between the community and the police. Killings such as this traumatises the passengers and instil unnecessary fear. We are however confident on the work of the police and we believe they have enough capacity to deal the scourge of crime in our province," said Mchunu.

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