



# transport

Department:  
Transport  
Province of KwaZulu-Natal

## **MEDIA ADVISORY**

Tuesday, 05 December 2017

### **KAUNDA TO ANNOUNCE DRASTIC MEASURES FOLLOWING A SPATE OF KILLINGS IN LADYSMITH TAXI OPERATIONS**

The MEC for Transport, Community Safety and Liaison, Mr. Mxolisi Kaunda, will make a pronouncement tomorrow (Wednesday, 6 December 2017) on the extraordinary measures that government will undertake in Ladysmith following a spate of killings by taxi operators and innocent commuters.

The decision to evoke Section 91 of the National Land Transport Act, 2009, Act No. 5 of 2009, which gives the MEC power to apply extraordinary measures, is aimed at saving people's lives.

It is also intended to bring stability in the taxi industry in Ladysmith and areas within the Alfred Duma Local Municipality, where approximately 71 lives have been lost since the outbreak of this conflict between Sizwe Transport Taxi Association and Klipriver Taxi Association.

Among those who died recently was the deputy chairperson of Klipriver Taxi Association, Mr. Ngobese, who was ambushed by assailants while traveling with his daughter, the driver and two bodyguards. There were 11 people who died in that incident, including teachers, a school clerk and a taxi driver whose minibus collided head on with Mr. Ngobese's vehicle, which lost control upon being attacked. Two more operators were murdered on Friday (1 December 2017) and this led to the MEC's decision to take extraordinary measures to save lives and to deal with lawlessness in the area.

A series of meetings have been conducted and presided over by MEC Kaunda and SANTACO with the two associations that are at loggerheads to try and resolve their conflicts and reach an amicable solution. These meetings have not borne the desired peace and stability, as people have continued to be killed in what the police aligned with the taxi conflicts in the area.

The media briefing will take place as follows:

**Date: Wednesday, 6 December 2017**

**Venue: Indoor Sports Centre (Ladysmith)**

**Time: 12h00**

The media briefing will be followed by a public and stakeholders engagement where the MEC will announce his decision and the way-forward to the members of the public and public representatives.

The public meeting will take place as follows:

**Date: Wednesday, 6 December 2017**

**Venue: Indoor Sports Centre**

**Time: 14h00**

Media is invited and requested to make confirmations with Mandisi Mhlono on:

[Mandisi.mhlono@kzntransport.gov.za](mailto:Mandisi.mhlono@kzntransport.gov.za)

Mobile: 082 805 9072

Ends.

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