



transport

Department:
Transport
Province of KwaZulu-Natal

MEDIA STATEMENT

Wednesday, 17 July 2019

MEC KAUNDA CALLS FOR SWIFT ACTION FOLLOWING THE GRUESOME MURDER OF TWO TAXI DRIVERS IN UMLAZI

The MEC for Transport, Community Safety and Liaison, Mxolisi Kaunda has dispatched a team of officials from the Department of Transport to stabilise the situation in Umlazi following the murder of two taxi drivers in two separate incidents yesterday (16 July 2019).

According to reports a 43-year-old driver was shot and killed by unknown suspects while at D section at Umlazi yesterday evening. Reports further reveal that he sustained gunshot wounds to his head and was declared dead on the scene.

In a separate incident, a driver was shot by unknown suspects in his back and shoulder while at M section at Umlazi yesterday evening and was confirmed dead on the scene. Both taxi drivers were from MNR taxi association.

Kaunda who condemned the incident, has asked the police to also speed up the investigation into the incidents to establish what could have been the motive behind the attacks. He has also appealed to members of the community to cooperate with the police and share important information that could lead to the arrest of the suspects.

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“After learning about the incident, we quickly dispatched a team of officials to engage with all affected parties into the incident so as to find a lasting solution. It has always been our call that should any dispute arise within the taxi industry, parties must resolve their dispute through constructive engagement. One of the tasks that our team of officials will do in the area is to facilitate constructive engagement among all the parties,” said Kaunda.

Police will continue to maintain a strong presence in the area to ensure that commuters, operators and general members of the community are safe. Kaunda has also called for calm in the area and allow law enforcement agencies space to conduct a thorough investigation.

Ends.

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