



KWAZULU-NATAL PROVINCE

TRANSPORT
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

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Media Advisory

Wednesday, 23 August 2023

MEC HLOMUKA COMMENDS THE POLICE FOR THE ARREST OF A HITMEN BELIEVED TO BE A PRIME SUSPECT IN THE PORT SHEPTONE TAXI KILLING

The KwaZulu-Natal MEC for Transport, Community Safety and Liaison, Sipho Hlomuka, has welcomed the arrest of a prime suspect in the taxi shooting that happened in Port Shepstone taxi rank.

Two suspects were arrested after an intelligence driven operation by the police and the Taxi Violence Task Team.

The two suspects were cornered on the N2 in Ballito, where they were believed to be on a mission to commit another assassination.

Police arrested them and recovered a rifle and pistol as well as ammunition.

The suspects, aged 33 and 37, will appear in the KwaDukuza Magistrate court tomorrow.

One suspect was linked to the Port Shepstone taxi rank which happened a few weeks ago.

On the 25 July 2023, suspects attacked taxi drivers in a taxi rank, killing four and leaving many others with serious injuries.

The incident is believed to be related to a taxi feud involving operations between Eastern Cape and Port Shepstone.

Commenting after the arrest, MEC Hlomuka said this is important in building stability in the taxi industry.

"We salute the police who have worked hard to ensure that the suspects are arrested. This arrest is important in restoring peace in the taxi industry in Port Shepstone and all the affected areas. We also want those who are behind the Port Shepstone killings to be unmasked and be arrested. The use of hitmen in the taxi industry is concerning and we are working very hard as government, police and industry leaders to root them out," said Hlomuka.

The Department of Transport through the Provincial Regulatory Entity (PRE) is intervening in a number of associations facing challenges.

This is informed by the commitment by the Department of ensuring that peace and stability prevails in the industry.

Ends

Issued by the KwaZulu-Natal Department of Transport