

## **MEDIA STATEMENT**

TO: ALL MEDIA  
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ATTENTION: NEWS EDITORS/ REPORTERS

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### **MEC MCHUNU TO HOST THE 3<sup>rd</sup> MEC'S COMMUNITY AWARDS FOR POLICE EXCELLENCE**

THE KwaZulu-Natal MEC for Transport, Community Safety & Liaison Willies Mchunu has announced today that the 3<sup>rd</sup> MEC's Community Awards for Police Excellence will be held on 19 February 2010.

Mchunu said: "The objective of the Community Awards for Police Excellence awards is to publicly celebrate the individual and collective achievements made by the members of the SAPS in the Province. The expected results are an increased efficiency and effectiveness within the police force."

He said these awards are unique in that members of the community play a direct role throughout the process. "So this is excellence according to the customer," he said.

He added: "These awards seek to entrench and promote the concept of community policing by recognizing and rewarding police best practice. This project not only improves the morale of police members, it further promotes healthy competition amongst police stations and specialized units in the province". Ends see background...

## **BACKGROUND INFORMATION ON MEC'S COMMUNITY AWARDS FOR POLICE EXCELLENCE**

The Province of KwaZulu-Natal is the only one in the country that has such an awards scheme which is community driven. The whole process of nomination, adjudication is community driven. This public participatory process ensures that communities have the greatest say in evaluating the quality of SAPS and Community Policing Forum's (CPF's) service delivery.

### **OBJECTIVES**

Objectives are to identify and reward police stations that have demonstrated, *inter alia*:

- Optimum use of technology to improve the quality of crime investigations
- Outstanding compliance and adherence to all applicable laws, policies, regulations, and standing orders, general or specific, of the country.
- Optimum engagement of other stakeholders including intelligence to improve performance in fighting crime
- Exceptional management and leadership practices
- Outstanding commitment to the values and principles enshrined in the Batho Pele Principles
- Effective police-community relations
- Outstanding service to targeted vulnerable groups (women, children, elderly and the physically challenged)
- Exceptional contribution to sound professional conduct or behavior
- Dedication to quality policing in general
- Vision and innovations in all facets of crime prevention and law enforcement
- Best practices in using financial and human resources to improve performance

## **STAKEHOLDERS**

The stakeholders involved are SAPS, CPF, Vulnerable groups, and Community members represented by community organizations. The expected results are efficient and effective SAPS with improved service delivery and general policing to communities.

## **METHODOLOGY**

The methodology used involves administering of questionnaires. These are given to all stakeholders in all 183 stations policing precinct. The Department of Community Safety & Liaison performs this task. After the questionnaires', processes of short listing, interviews and site visits are conducted to determine the final nominees.

## **CATEGORIES TO BE AWARDED**

- Best police station
- Best Community Police Forum
- Best Community Service Centre (CSC)
- Best Crime Prevention Unit (CPU)
- Best Detective Unit (DU)
- Best station in protecting vulnerable groups
- Best Family, Child and Sexual Offences (FCS)
- Best Stock Theft Unit (STU)
- Veteran Community Police Forum Awards
- Youth Desk Awards

In addition to the above, the other category is dubbed:

## **MEC'S CHOICE SPECIAL AWARDS:**

- Best policeman
- Best policewoman

- Best police member in dealing with communities in conflicts
- Outstanding investigations in Organized Crime Unit.

**END.**