



community safety &  
liaison

Department :  
Community Safety and Liaison  
PROVINCE OF KWAZULU-NATAL

Private Bag X9143, Pietermaritzburg, 3200  
179 Jabu Ndlovu, Pietermaritzburg, 3201  
Tel: (033) 341 9300 (Switchboard) Fax: (033) 342 6345

### **MEDIA STATEMENT**

TO : ALL MEDIA  
DATE : THURSDAY, 10 MARCH 2016  
ATTENTION : NEWS EDITORS/REPORTERS AND PR WIRE

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#### **MEC MCHUNU COMMENDS THE POLICE FOR ARRESTING 1 186 SUSPECTS**

THE KWAZULU-NATAL MEC for Transport, Community Safety and Liaison, Willies Mchunu has greatly welcomed the arrest of 1 186 suspects, following a number of operations in Pietermaritzburg.

A total number of 1 186 suspects were arrested in various areas for a number of crimes ranging from murder, attempted murder, rape, sexual assault, common assault, common robbery, robbery aggravated, drug related, theft, fraud, assault with intent to cause grievous bodily harm, stock theft, malicious damage to property, burglaries, shoplifting, possession of unlicensed firearms and ammunitions, culpable homicide, possession of drugs and dangerous weapons, theft of motor vehicle as well as driving under the influence of alcohol.

The arrested suspects have appeared in the Pietermaritzburg Court and 221 accused have been found guilty on different cases.

This follows a number of operations by Plessislaer police in their policing precinct which took place within the period of four months (November 2015 until March 2016). These operations comprised of tracing of wanted suspects, high police visibility cordon and search operations.

Today (10 March 2016) MEC Mchunu has greatly welcomed the good work done by the police.

**“I commend the police for the work well done. These numbers simply tell us that we have a huge number of criminals in our province.**

**“I urge the community to continue to work with the police and community crime prevention structures to fight against crime and claim back our space from criminals.**

**“I am so pleased by this action because we are currently in the atmosphere of elections. Criminals must not be given platform in any time. The place that belongs to criminals is jail, period!**

**We will make sure that such operations continue so that our communities feel that they live in a safe and secure environment. We will continue to make sure that criminals are brought to book” says Mchunu.**

Enquiries:

Sipho Khumalo @082-682-6437

[Sipho.khumalo@comsafety.gov.za](mailto:Sipho.khumalo@comsafety.gov.za)

OR

Kwanele Ncalane

: 072 803 1462/079 6995755

: [Kwanele.ncalane@kzntransport.gov.za](mailto:Kwanele.ncalane@kzntransport.gov.za)