



community safety &
liaison

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Community Safety and Liaison
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MEDIA STATEMENT

TO : ALL MEDIA
DATE : WEDNESDAY, 20 SEPTEMBER 2017
ATTENTION : NEWS EDITORS/REPORTERS AND PR WIRE

MEC KAUNDA CONDEMNS FATAL SHOOTING OF THREE PEOPLE IN MPUMALANGA TOWNSHIP

The KwaZulu-Natal MEC for Transport, Community Safety and Liaison, Mxolisi Kaunda has strongly condemned the killing of three people in Mpumalanga, Hammarsdale, in a drive-by shooting yesterday (19 September 2017).

Preliminary investigation by the police indicate that at about 9:30PM, local males were standing outside a container along Shezi Main Road when a bakkie with an unknown number of occupants fired several shots towards them and sped off.

Two males aged 19 and 51 died instantly and a 33-year-old male was taken to hospital where he died on arrival.

Assortments of rifle and pistol cartridges were found at the scene. The motive of the attack is unknown at this stage. The police are investigating three counts of murder and no arrest has been made at this stage.

Kaunda has strongly condemned the incident, calling the police to work around the clock to find the suspects. **“Such acts of criminality cannot be allowed in our society where some trigger-happy thugs would just unleash a hail of bullets on**

innocent people. We want the police to get to the bottom of this incident and ensure that the suspects face the full might of the law,” said Kaunda.

This is the second incident in Mpumalanga where a number of people were being attacked by unknown assailants. Early this year, four people, including teenagers, were attacked and fatally shot while sitting in a house.

Kaunda has called on all crime-fighting structures in the area to work with the police and suffocate criminals. **“We also urge community members who may have witnessed the incident to provide information to the police so that they can speed up the investigation. I have asked the police to increase their visibility in the area and conduct stop and search operations to ensure that no further attacks occur,”** said Kaunda.

The team from the Department of Community Safety and Liaison has been dispatched to Mpumalanga to assess the situation and advise on interventions that government must put in place to curb the scourge of crime in the area.

ENDS

For more information contact Kwanele Ncalane on 079 699 5755 or Mluleki Mntungwa on 060 974 1140