

## **MEC KAUNDA CONFIDENT THAT POLICE WILL MAKE BREAKTHROUGH ON PIETERMARITZBURG AND UTRECH MURDERS**

The KwaZulu-Natal MEC for Transport, Community Safety and Liaison, Mxolisi Kaunda is concerned about the incidents of brutal murders that claimed the lives of six people over the weekend in the province.

On Saturday, three people were fatally shot and one seriously injured in Mbali Township while watching a football match. Among the deceased was a traffic cop in Msunduzi Municipality, Sifiso Gwala. Another incident took place in Utrecht on Saturday where three family members were gunned down in their house. One of the deceased is the former councillor in Madlangeni Local Municipality, Mavis Maphenyane Nzima.

Kaunda visited both families today to convey the condolences on behalf of the provincial government. He also called for calm in both communities as police were working around the clock to ensure that perpetrators of these callous murders face the full might of the law. "Police investigation will also reveal what could have been the motive behind these two incidents," said Kaunda.

Assuring members of the community of the police commitment to clamp down on murders in the province, Kaunda said that last week police were able to apprehend at least eight suspects linked to murder cases in Pietermaritzburg and uMzimkhulu. "Therefore, we have full confidence in the police that they will be able to make a breakthrough on these two incidents in a short period of time. This will send a strong message to members of the public that government will never tolerate criminality," said Kaunda. He urged members of the community who might have witness the incidents to share information with the police.