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MEDIA STATEMENT

FOR ALL MEDIA

MEC HLOMUKA CALLS FOR INCREASED POLICE DEPLOYMENT TO BEEF UP THE MANHUNT FOR SUSPECTS FOLLOWING THE DEATH OF SIX PEOPLE IN UMLAZI

KwaZulu-Natal MEC for Transport, Community Safety and Liaison, Siphso Hlomuka calls for increased police deployment to beef up the 72-hour manhunt for suspects who shot and killed six people in Umlazi on Friday evening (11 August).

Hlomuka has tasked police to work with speed and efficiency to ensure the apprehension of these wanted criminals.

Police reports reveal that four suspects stormed into a house at Umlazi, Q section, just before midnight and fatally shot two occupants, two more people were killed within the same yard. The suspects proceeded to a nearby informal settlement and shot three people who were inside a shack.

Two were certified dead at the scene and the third is recuperating in hospital.

Police investigations have confirmed that one of the suspects is currently on the run from the police. He is wanted for a murder charge.

“We are confident that police will apprehend these brazen thugs within the 72-hour mobilization period that has been set by the Provincial Commissioner. We are committed to restoring law and order in our communities. We cannot and will not allow our communities to be held at ransom by criminal activity. We have called on police to augment the number of personnel assigned to pursue and arrest these criminals. We are certain that our law enforcement officers are equal to the task,” said Hlomuka.

MEC Hlomuka says government and law enforcement is working tirelessly to remove the large number of illegal firearms and ammunition that are used by criminals to commit crime, especially murder. A total of 332 were recovered in various operation around the province last month.

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