



**GAUTENG PROVINCE**  
HEALTH  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

## **MEDIA STATEMENT**

**THURSDAY, 20 JANUARY 2022**

### **GAUTENG EMS PARAMEDICS TO MARCH FOLLOWING ATTACKS ON EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES PERSONNEL**

Members of the Gauteng Emergency Medical Services will tomorrow, 21 January participate in a 3km walk in the Ekurhuleni District to raise awareness of the ongoing attacks on paramedics in the province.

The march takes place following an incident in Reiger Park, Boksburg on Tuesday morning, where paramedics were attacked at gunpoint while responding to call where a woman was actively in labour. The crew was robbed by three armed men who made off with their personal cellphones and wallets. The criminals also took the ambulance keys.

MEC Nomathemba Mokgethi said “Attacks on paramedics and EMS resources is simply unacceptable. We are appealing to communities to work with us to protect EMS personnel.”

The MEC further commended the team saying despite the trauma experienced by the crew they still assisted in the delivery of the baby and made arrangements for a second ambulance to assist in transporting both mother and baby to the hospital.

A second incident took place on Wednesday around 05h21, where a crew was also attacked at gun point while attending a medical call in Eersterus, Tshwane east. The crew was robbed of their personal cell phones including a department issued cellphone. Fortunately, the crew escaped unharmed and still managed to deliver the patient to hospital.

Members of the media are invited to attend and cover the planned march for tomorrow:

**Date:** Friday, 21<sup>st</sup> January 2022

**Time:** 09h00

**Start:** Reiger Park Civic Centre

**Ends/**

**Issued by Gauteng Department of Health**

**For more information, contact**

**Kwara Kekana, Spokesperson: MEC for Health**

**082 737 7227 or [mediaenquiries@gauteng.gov.za](mailto:mediaenquiries@gauteng.gov.za)**

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