MEDIA ADVISORY



## TO: ALL MEDIA

### **ATTENTION: NEWS EDITORS**

DATE: MONDAY, 05 AUGUST 2019

#### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

# MEC Mazibuko to attend the court appearance of the Vlakfontein femicide suspect

The Gauteng MEC for Community Safety, Faith Mazibuko, will tomorrow 6 August 2019 attend the court appearance of a 28-year-old suspect who confessed to the murder of his girlfriend in Vlakfontein, South of Johannesburg. The suspect was arrested after he confessed to murder and a body of a 41-year-old woman was found buried in a shallow grave inside his shack, on Sunday evening, by a Police search and rescue team.

MEC Faith Mazibuko visited the crime scene on Monday afternoon and addressed the community of Vlakfontein Ext 1. "The rate of femicide is of grave concern to us as the Gauteng government. We encourage women to break the silence by reporting incidents of gender-based violence as they tend to escalate to femicide. We encourage the community to report people who are missing to the police as the suspect confessed that there are other bodies that he buried." said MEC Mazibuko

The Gauteng Department of Community Safety will deploy a Safety Kiosk in the Vlakfontein area. The kiosk is meant to bridge the distance between the community and the Lenasia South Police Station. Peace Officers who are authorised to perform citizen's arrest, and Patrollers who will patrol the area and respond to calls from the community, will be deployed to the kiosk. The community is encouraged to use the kiosk to follow-up on cases that they reported to the police and are still pending.

The suspect is due to appear for his bail application appearance at the Protea Magistrate Court after he was arrested on Sunday following his confession to the murder.

# Details of the court appearance are as follows:

Date : Tuesday, 06 August 2019

Time : 09:00 am

Venue: Protea Magistrate Court

# END

Issued by the office of the MEC for Community Safety in Gauteng. For media enquiries contact Pinkie Numa on <u>066 080 7742</u>. For media releases, speeches and news visit the website: <u>www.gauteng.gov.za</u>

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