



**GAUTENG PROVINCE**

ROADS AND TRANSPORT  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

## **MEDIA STATEMENT**

To: All Media

Att: News Editors / Transport Reporters

22 February 2020

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### **MEC Mamabolo condemns incidents of taxi violence**

The Gauteng MEC for Public Transport and Roads Infrastructure, Jacob Mamabolo has condemned incidents believed to be linked to taxi violence in Cosmo City, north of Johannesburg and Tsakane, Ekurhuleni.

Two people were shot dead, and another suffered gunshot wounds when unidentified assailants opened fire on their vehicle on Modjadji Street in Tsakane last night (21 February 2020).

Police recovered several spent AK-47 and pistol cartridges at the scene of the incident. One occupant of the vehicle fled the scene.

In Cosmo City, police are investigating a case of attempted murder after a man was wounded during a shoot-out near Cosmo City Mall last night.

With the assistance of the community, police managed to arrest one suspect who was in possession of an unlicensed firearm, while another assailant managed to escape the scene and is still at large.

MEC Mamabolo has expressed his dismay following the two incidents and sent his condolences to the families and loved ones of the two men who unfortunately lost their lives.

“The loss of a life due to senseless violence is unacceptable. I would also like to wish a speedy recovery to those who are in hospital. These incidents of violence undermine the progress we have made in collaboration with the Gauteng Taxi Industry,” said MEC Mamabolo.

Mamabolo has also commended community members who assisted the police with information that led to the arrest of one suspect and thanked the police for their swift reaction which yielded an arrest.

“In conjunction with the Gauteng Taxi Industry and the resolutions of the 2019 Gauteng Taxi Summit, the provincial government has established the Commission of Inquiry into Taxi Violence, which is being led by a retired Judge, Justice Jeremiah Shongwe. We believe that the Commission will help us uncover the underbelly of this violence,” said the MEC.

**ENDS!**

**For more information, contact the Department of Roads and Transport's Melitah Madiba on 073 644 9935 or Theo Nkonki on 082 719 6404.**

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