



GAUTENG PROVINCE
ROADS AND TRANSPORT
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Gauteng government condemns killing of Ekurhuleni taxi leaders

Gauteng MEC for Public Transport and Roads Infrastructure, Jacob Mamabolo, has expressed shock and anger following the gunning down of two leaders of the Greater Germiston Taxi Association, otherwise known as GATA, at the weekend.

GATA Chairperson Mr Mandla Nzimande was shot and killed while parked on the side of the road in Extension 3, Palm Ridge in Ekurhuleni on Saturday, 27 June 2021.

His Deputy Mr Ndabazakhe Zakwe was also gunned down at the Empilisweni taxi rank in Thokoza. No arrests have been made in both killings.

“I am deeply saddened by this senseless killing of these two leaders who strived for peace in the taxi association. For years, there have been no murders in this association thanks to the leadership of both Mr Nzimande and Mr Zakwe. These murders are a huge blow to the minibus taxi industry, not only in Ekurhuleni, but across the province. To the families and loved ones of the two leaders, we would like to send our sincerest condolences and we wish them strength during this difficult time,” said MEC Mamabolo.

He has called on law-enforcement agencies to leave no stone unturned to find those behind the murders. Families need to know the truth about the deaths of their loved ones, to get justice and find closure.

“We declared this year as “the year of no taxi violence” and we continue with our strides to rid the industry of murderers and violence. While these killings have come as a shock to the entire transport community, we will not be deterred in our efforts to end violence associated with the taxi industry in Gauteng,” added Mamabolo.

The Department has been working closely with Gauteng’s major taxi industry bodies, the South African National Taxi Council (SANTACO) and the Gauteng National Taxi Alliance (GNTA), intervening in areas where there is a threat of violence. Through negotiations and talks many violent clashes have been avoided in the province.

“We remain firm in our belief that the taxi industry like any business sector can only thrive if disputes are resolved through talking and not the barrel of a gun. Whilst there has been progress, we are taking sporadic incidents of violence quite seriously. We are firm in our

belief that together with the taxi industry we can rid this industry of murderers and prepare the industry to take part in the formal economy of our province,” said Mamabolo.

Through its Growing Gauteng Through Smart Mobility, the Department has placed the integration of the taxi industry into the broader public transport system high on its priorities. This is to ensure that all modes of public transport form one seamless ecosystem that makes commuting efficient and affordable for the people of Gauteng.

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Issued by the Gauteng Department of Roads and Transport