



REFERENCE: **Statement Brakpan shootings**

CONTACT PERSON: **Siziwe Zuma**

THE PRIVATE SECURITY INDUSTRY REGULATORY AUTHORITY (PSiRA) CONDEMNS SHOOTING INVOLVING SECURITY OFFICERS IN BRAKPAN INCIDENT

PRETORIA, 24 MAY 2018- The Private Security Regulatory Authority CEO, Mr Manabela Chauke, strongly condemns the alleged taxi-related violence which resulted in the loss of lives which happened yesterday, 23 May 2018, in Brakpan, Gauteng, whereby security guards were involved.

In terms of Private Security Industry Act 56 of 2001, our mandate is to regulate the private security industry and to exercise effective control over the practice of the occupation of security service provider **in the public and national interests and the interest of the private security industry itself.**

Our preliminary investigation indicates that the shooting, which occurred around 09h00, left four people dead and six (6) injured. Eight (8) suspects were arrested by the police and, we have further established that of the eight suspects six (6) are PSiRA-registered security officers employed by Ingonyama VIP Security from Mtubatuba, KZN while two (2) are alleged to be taxi owners. Their competency to carry firearms is yet to be confirmed by SAPS.

Mr Chauke applauds PSiRA's law enforcement team and the police for their swift response to the incident and pledges full commitment from PSiRA in working with relevant law enforcement agencies. A comprehensive investigation is underway and those who would be implicated and found to have acted against the industry's Code of Conduct, will be held to account.

"The spate of violence-laced incidents involving private security service providers is of grave concern to the Authority", contends Chauke. He further accentuated that the act of lawlessness and criminality by any private security service provider will to be allowed.

Security officers are bound by a Code of Conduct which amongst others, provides that, "A private security provider may not infringe any rights of a person as provided for in the Bill of Rights." The code of conduct further enjoins security officers to act in a manner that promotes good discipline in the private security industry.

We reassure the public that security officers are the first line of defence when it comes to the protection of property and persons, and are expected to uphold the law of the country. Our commitment and obligation towards the public in this instance is that we will investigate whether the implicated security officers acted within the prescripts of the Code of Conduct:

'A security service provider may only use force when the use of force as well as the nature and extent thereof is reasonably necessary in the circumstances and is permitted in terms of law' (Section 8(4) of the General obligations towards the public and the private security industry).

Equally, we shall investigate the nature of the contract between the private security service provider and the client to whom services were rendered.

'Ends'

Issued by Private Security Industry Regulatory Authority's Communication Unit

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