

Operation Fiela 2 nets 881 in a three-day crime blitz

ELFAS TORERAI

NORTH West police arrested 881 people for various crimes in a three-day blitz meant to reduce crime during this festive season.

Several raids were conducted under the banner of Operation Fiela 2 Reclaim and Safer Festive Season operations in various parts of the province.

North West police spokesperson Brig Sabata Mokgwabone said that the operation started at the weekend.

"Of the arrested suspects, 463

were busted during Operation Fiela 2, which is aimed at asserting the authority of the state and executed through integrated operations by the police together with role players including provincial and local municipal traffic officials as well as immigration officials," he said.

Mokgwabone said the arrests were for various offences such as rape, assault with intent to do grievous bodily harm, possession of drugs, drunken driving as well as different liquor and traffic-related offences.

"During the operation, six suspected illegal foreign nationals were taken in for processing by immigration officials.

"It was during the operation that goods such as dagga, liquor and dangerous weapons were confiscated," Mokgwabone said.

The other 418 people were arrested in the same period through an ongoing Operation Back to Basics - Safer Festive Season 2017-18 operations that began in October. Mokgwabone said that this operation was launched to ensure

all people are and feel safe in their localities.

"The operations are conducted to intensify police work done throughout the year," he said.

Provincial police commissioner Lt-Gen Baile Motswenyane commended the members throughout the province for their commitment to ensuring the safety and security of the community within the province.

Those arrested have started appearing at various courts across the province.

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BUSTED: SAPS officers arrest a suspect during Operation Fiela 2. PHOTO: RUMOR

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