

# Family prepares to bury nine

## Horror crash near Coligny on Sunday killed 10 after taxi tyre burst

ELFAS TOREAI

A MADIBOGOPAN family is preparing to bury nine family members who died in an accident that killed 10 people at the weekend.

The 10th person is the hired driver of the taxi.

The accident took place about 5pm on Sunday in the Ga-Maloka area along the N14 road near Coligny.

According to traffic authorities, seven people including the driver, died at the scene. A mother and her toddler were among six family members who perished on impact.

The other three died due to their injuries while in hospital, bringing the total number to 10.

Community safety and transport management spokesperson Thabo Sematle said: "It is reported that a minibus taxi had a tyre burst, the driver lost

control of the vehicle and it overturned several times."

He said seven died on the scene, two were critically injured and several others sustained moderate injuries.

"Emergency vehicles managed to stabilise and transport survivors to nearby hospitals and forensic pathology services took care of the deceased," he said.

A family member who spoke to Afro Voice said: "We are devastated beyond words. The 10th victim died on Wednesday and we are now busy trying to arrange for the funerals tomorrow."

He said the victims were going back to Johannesburg after a funeral in Madi-bogopan village.

"They had come home for a funeral and had hired a taxi. Unfortunately, we are now burying nine of them this weekend."

Negotiations were said to be ongoing for a mass funeral though it was not yet

agreed to by the family.

"There are some who are still fighting for their lives in hospital but we hope they will recover and be discharged soon," the family member said.

Community safety and transport management MBC Mpho Motlathane sent condolence messages to the affected families and wished the injured a speedy recovery.

"This accident comes at the time when our road safety campaign have been escalated, are resourced with new vehicles and are on duty 24/7.

"Surely there is a need for our drivers and passengers to bring their end of the bargain, drive roadworthy vehicles, do roadworthy inspections before taking their trips, avoid speeding and obey all rules of the road, to avoid the escalation of this carnage on our otherwise quiet roads."

[elfast@afrovoice.co.za](mailto:elfast@afrovoice.co.za)



**TRAGEDY:** The remains of a taxi that burst a tyre and fell over bridge, killing seven people instantly and three others who died in hospital.

# Police accused of sabotage

Ilse de Lange

THE CITIZEN: 22/06/18-P5-AWPG-MEG

Judgment was reserved yesterday in the Independent Police Investigative Directorate's (Ipid) bid to block what it cited as unlawful interference in its investigations into allegations ranging from corruption to murder and torture.

Ipid has accused former acting national police commissioner Lieutenant-General Khomotso Phahlane and North West police members of unlawfully interfering in these investigations.

In the High Court in Pretoria yesterday, Ipid applied for an order declaring it unlawful for any police member to undertake or oversee an investigation of an Ipid member if the police member had a personal interest in it, or was the subject of an Ipid investigation.

Ipid also wants to prevent North West police members from undertaking or overseeing the investigation into Ipid officers and ensure it's done by police officers with no personal interest in it.

Ipid contended the North West police's investigation of Ipid investigators, who were probing them for alleged crimes, was unlawful and the officers were breaching their duty to act impartially and that the Ipid officers were entitled to a fair investigation.

Phahlane, who is facing prosecution, Major-General Ntebo Malala and other North West police members opposed the application. They argued there was no genuine conflict of interest as the cases Ipid was investigating against them were trumped up "cold cases", instituted at the behest of private forensic investigator Paul O'Sullivan.

Ipid said there were strong prima facie cases for prosecution against Phahlane for corruption, fraud and money laundering and the North West police officers on a range of criminal charges. They were also being probed for alleged torture, murder, assault, kidnapping and intimidation.

Ipid said that McBride, its principal investigator and O'Sullivan had all received anonymous death threats since the investigations began.