

# Numsa urges police to 'negotiate in good faith'

AKANI MANGENA

THE National Union of Metalworkers of South Africa (Numsa) has called on the SAPS to "negotiate in good faith" as it prepares to meet at the CCMA with SA Police Union (Sapu), over the 10 III workers salary dispute.

Numsa acting spokesperson Makamile Hlubi said the SAPS should be willing to listen to workers demands in order to resolve the wage dispute as

SAPU temporarily suspended their strike to allow talks to proceed.

Among other demands topping the list, Sapu called on the 10 III operators' salary level to be increased by two notches, an estimated increase of R50 000 yearly.

Sapu general secretary Oscar Skommere on Friday warned that employers should not think that workers had "given in" by suspending the strike, because the suspension is only for

CCMA negotiations to continue without any pressure.

"We have suspended our industrial action for the benefit of the public we serve," Skommere said.

As the metalworkers union gears up for a "life or death" strike in the engineering sector, the union urged SAPS to practice the government's "Batho Pele" principle in order to ensure that the people were served.

"This government cannot claim to

be promoting 'radical economic transformation' when state institutions are guilty of exploiting workers in the same way that greedy capitalists exploit workers. Police management is putting the lives of South Africans at risk by exploiting Sapu members and forcing them to strike," Hlubi said.

SAPS spokesperson Sally de Beer did not respond to a request for comment at the time of going to print.

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## Six to appear for taxi boss' murder

ELFAS TORERA

SIX men will appear in the Brits Magistrate's Court tomorrow after they were arrested for the murder of a taxi owner in Brits.

The six were apprehended after a thorough investigation by the police.

They will also face charges of attempted murder and conspiracy to commit murder.

North West police spokesperson Brig Sabata Mokgwabone said the accused are aged between 33 and 63.

"The men were arrested on July 15 and 16 in Maboloka, Letlhabile and

Alexandra in Gauteng. According to information the suspects fired several shots and killed a man who was driving a Toyota Corolla on June 15 along Letlhakaneng Road, Brits," Mokgwabone said.

"The accused believed at the time of the incident that the man was a taxi owner. The alleged target was a passenger in the same car."

Mokgwabone said after a thorough and tireless effort, the investigating team managed to arrest four men in Letlhabile and Maboloka villages.

"The other two accused believed to be hitmen were arrested in Alexandra,

Gauteng and found in possession of two illegal firearms. The police seized three vehicles that are suspected to have been used in the commission of the crimes."

The six men were remanded in custody after a brief appearance in the Brits Magistrate's Court last week Sunday. They will appear in the same court tomorrow for a formal bail application.

Acting provincial police commissioner Maj-Gen Ryno Naidoo said the arrests will send a clear message that lawlessness will not be tolerated.

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