

SAPS NW 09/06/2017 POSITIVE TNA PG 1

Smokes theft nipped in bud

ELFAS TORERAI

A MAN was killed while another was wounded when police reacted to avert the theft of a cigarette delivery vehicle in Mooinooi near Brits.

Three people were arrested including two employees found inside the vehicle.

The three men, aged 30 to 32, will apply for bail when they appear in the Brits Magistrate's Court next week.

North West police spokesperson Sgt Kelebogile Moleko said the three would face charges of conspiracy to commit an offence and theft of a motor vehicle.

"The suspects were arrested by police in Mooinooi in Elandsdrift earlier this week. The police were called to the crime scene about a truck that was stolen," Moleko said.

"Upon arrival at the scene it was found that the suspects were driving a cigarette delivery truck which was

being followed by a company security official.

"Shots were fired at the truck after it took a wrong route and the driver failed to stop when he was ordered to do so by the security official. The driver was fatally wounded while the passenger was taken to hospital where he is still under police guard," she said.

After the truck eventually stopped, police found two employees of the truck company inside and they were arrested.

"After opening the truck, two company employees who were responsible for the delivery were found in the back. They were arrested following a preliminary investigation for conspiring to commit an offence."

"Preliminary investigations show the suspects are linked to several other crimes committed in the Rustenburg area," Moleko said.

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SAPS NW 09/06/2012

Woman in court for drug possession

A WOMAN arrested for drugs is expected to apply for bail in the Klerksdorp Magistrate's Court today.

She was one of three people arrested in drug-related cases after the Hawks conducted an operation in Klerksdorp at the weekend.

The operation targeted the Klerksdorp CBD.

Hawks spokesperson Capt Tlangelani Rikhotso said the suspect, Munezero Gigi, 30, was arrested at a taxi rank after being found in possession of Mandrax tablets with a street value of about R1550.

She then appeared at the Klerksdorp Magistrate's Court on Monday where bail was denied.

Her next appearance will be on Friday. Police are conducting further investigations.

Meanwhile, Tengot Mayeku, 30 and Bonolo Makume, 21, who were also arrested, appeared at the same court on the same day.

The Hawks said the two were arrested in a flat in town after being found in possession of cocaine worth R1200, five cell-phones and R11 908 in cash.

Mayeku was granted 3 000 bail, while Makume received R1 000 bail.

The pair will appear in court again on July 20.

Hawks provincial head, Maj-Gen Linda Mbana, warned that the Hawks would be conducting operations of this nature in and around Klerksdorp again.

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R500 bail for accused arsonists, kidnappers of Ditsobotla

SEMPEHE
Nthusang Lefafa

PC 4 AAG / 09 / 06 / 17 / NW SAPS
disguised as service delivery protests.

More than 30 people who took part in torching the Ditsobotla Local Municipality building a few weeks ago have been released on R500 bail each. The 32, who include a councillor, are facing charges of arson, kidnapping and attempted murder. They held Ditsobotla Local Municipality mayor, Daniel Buthelezi, hostage on the evening of the drama they caused,

Magistrate Muthusi Khumalo of the Lichtenburg Magistrates Court granted the group bail on the understanding that they would come back on 26 July to answer to the charges.

Regional spokesperson for the National Prosecuting Authority (NPA), Frank Lesenyego, said the matter was postponed for further investigation.

In affidavits to support their release on bail, the accused claimed that most of them were at the municipal building for a meet-

ing with the mayor and that there were two groups that came for the same purpose on the day. They said there was confusion after the building was set alight and some community members managed to leave the building while some were trapped inside.

The prosecution team had argued that the 32 did not deserve bail because they did not show any remorse while all of their hostage drama was going on. The investigating officer said public violence and murder are seen as priority crimes by the SAPS.

An angry community member who spoke

on condition of anonymity said criminal elements and unemployment are the main causes of the torching of buildings, looting and hostage taking. "These kidnappings and torching of buildings are gang-related and not caused by political infighting. It is not the first time that some of these people have been arrested. We have seen a series of such occurrences and these people are not law-abiding citizens. They even hijack some projects implemented by the municipality and loot shops that are owned by foreigners."