



**MEDIA STATEMENT
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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**EASTERN CAPE HEALTH MEC CONDEMNS ATTACK ON SECURITY GUARDS AT
XHWILI CLINIC.**

The Eastern Cape Health MEC, Ntandokazi Capa, is deeply saddened by the tragic incident that occurred at Xhwili Clinic, near Mthatha, on Sunday night, in which two female security guards were shot. One of the guards sadly lost her life, while the other sustained serious injuries and is receiving medical care.

MEC Capa has strongly condemned the incident, describing it as a senseless and disturbing act of violence against women and those entrusted with protecting public facilities.

“We are shocked and deeply pained by this tragic incident. Our thoughts and prayers are with the families of the victims, and we wish the injured guard a full and speedy recovery. No one should lose their life or be harmed in the line of duty, especially while protecting spaces that serve our communities,” said MEC Capa.

The Department is working closely with the South African Police Service (SAPS) to establish the full circumstances surrounding the incident and to ensure that those responsible are held accountable.

“We trust that the law enforcement agencies will leave no stone unturned in their investigation. As a Department, we will cooperate fully with the police and provide any support necessary to ensure that justice is served,” added MEC Capa.

The MEC further emphasised the need for stronger collaboration between the Department of Health, law enforcement, community safety structures, and local leadership to improve the security of healthcare facilities across the province.

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“Our clinics and hospitals must remain safe spaces — for our staff, our patients, and our communities. Strengthening safety in and around health facilities requires a collective effort, and we call on all stakeholders to work together to prevent such tragic incidents,” she said.

The Department will dispatch psychosocial support teams to provide counselling to affected staff and community members.

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