

Deputy Minister of Police visits Musina and Beitbridge Port of Entry for the annual Safer Festive Season Operational Inspection

2025/01/01

## **Media Statement**

### **South African Police Service**

#### **Office of the Provincial Commissioner Limpopo**

POLOKWANE - The Deputy Minister of Police, Ms Polly Boshielo, supported by MEC for Community Safety and Transport, Ms Violet Mathye, Vhembe District Executive Mayor, Cllr Freda Nkondo and Provincial Commissioner of Police in Limpopo, Lieutenant General Thembi Hadebe, had on Tuesday, 31 December 2024, led the annual Safer Festive Season Operational-Inspection Tour at Musina and Beitbridge Port of Entry in Vhembe District, Limpopo province.

The visit was aimed at assessing the progress made in ensure a safer festive season that is jointly conducted by the South African Police Service(SAPS) and Border Management Authority especially in the fight against cross-border crimes, whilst also ensuring a safe cross over to the 2025 year at the Beitbridge Port of Entry.

The Safer Festive Season Operational Inspection Tour was honoured by the presence of Executive Regional Commander of BMA, Assistant Commissioner Mpilo, Deputy Provincial Commissioner responsible for Policing, Major General Jan Scheepers, Deputy Provincial Commissioner responsible for Crime Detection Major General Samuel Manala, Chief Director for Transport Regulations, Mrs Jane Mulaudzi, District Commissioner of Vhembe, Major General Eddie van Der Walt, Chairperson of Community Policing Forum Board, Mr France Kganyago, Provincial Heads and Police officers from various units, sister departments and other stakeholders.

The entourage proceeded to a multi-disciplinary parade held by various law enforcement agencies at Musina Mall and thereafter went to roadblock visit at N1 road, whereby they conducted stop and search operations and distributed safety tips pamphlets to the motorists.

The team moved to Beitbridge Port Entry for inspection and walk-about. They were updated with regard to the monitoring of day to day border duties, utilizing equipment such as drones. The Deputy Minister of Police, Ms Polly Boshielo also inspected the Department of Home Affairs and SARS Customs offices, amongst other offices at the Port of Entry. Together with the entourage, the Deputy Minister patrolled the fence at Beitbridge to Tshirundu and held a chopper flight patrols on Eastern Borderline.

The Deputy Minister, during her address, reiterated the issue of police safety during the festive

season. “The lives of the law enforcement officers must not be compromised, officers must exercise the power granted to them by the Constitution, to protect their lives and that of others, and the ministry will support them,” said Deputy Minister Boshielo.

She warned the officers about engaging in corrupt elements. “The ministry is not going to tolerate corruption, so make a decision, it is either you are part of us or not,” stressed Deputy Minister Boshielo.

She lastly raised her concerns about over 600 million sum that the organisation has paid to the civil claims and advised the Police to be cautious and follow correct procedures when they arrest suspects.

**End**

**Enquiries:**

Colonel Malesela Ledwaba

082 451 7180