

Joint media Statement issued by the office of the Minister and National Commissioner of Police

Vusi Reginald "Khekhe" Mathibela arrested

Pretoria: 13 March 2019 - The Minister and the National Commissioner of Police have welcomed the arrest of Vusi Reginald Mathibela also known as "Vusi Khekhe" after he handed himself over to the police in Germiston last night.

On Monday, police in Mamelodi East had obtained a Warrant for the arrest of Vusi Khekhe following cases of extortion, intimidation and assault levelled against him.

Vusi Khekhe is alleged to have been part of a group "terrorising" the community of Mamelodi over a period of time.

The Minister and the National Commissioner of Police engaged the community of Mamelodi East, firstly on the 25th of February 2019 during which time it emerged that Vusi Khekhe and the group have allegedly been terrorising the community of Mamelodi and surrounding areas. This was followed by a second visit on 1 March 2019 when a multidisciplinary satiation intervention was launched.

This intervention resulted in the arrest of six suspects on 8 March 2019, just a week after the launch of the stabilisation operations. Three of these suspects, Zwelibanzi Ngubane, Justice Khumalo and Asante Alfred were charged with possession of unlicensed firearms. They appeared in the Alexander Magistrate's Court on Monday, 11 March 2019 and released on bail of R2000 each. Their case was postponed to April for further investigation.

The 4th and 5th suspects, Elias Skosana and Kompfi Stemmer Monageng were charged with extortion, intimidation and assault. They appeared at Pretoria Magistrate's Court on Monday, 11 March 2019 and they have been remanded in custody until 15 March 2019.

The sixth suspect was released pending further investigations on a charge of possession of unlicensed firearm.

The whereabouts of Vusi Khekhe could not be established initially. However, the net was closing in on Vusi Khekhe when he decided to hand himself over to police last night.

"We are confident that Vusi Reginald "Khekhe" Mathibela has cases to answer to", said General Khehla John Sitole.

"As part of the Turn-around Vision of the SAPS we will continue to stamp the authority of the State by arresting and prosecuting wrongdoers in all communities thus ensuring that people are and feel safe", added General Sitole.

"The long arm of the law knows no boundaries, and will forever take its course no matter who you are. Residents of Mamelodi have been living in fear for far too long, the authority of the State will be felt and heard in all corners of South Africa" said Minister Cele

"We shall continue to stay true to our mission as the police to prevent and combat anything that may threaten the safety and security of any community and investigate all crimes and further ensure that

offenders are brought to justice”, concluded Minister Cele

Vusi Khhekhe will be brought before a magistrate in the Pretoria Court soon, not later than 48 hours from the time of his arrest.

We appeal to anyone who may have information on crime that have been committed or is likely to take place to please contact our Crime Stop number 086 00 10111. Callers may remain anonymous and all information will be treated with strictest confidence.

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