

21 February 2018

THE SOUTH AFRICAN POLICE SERVICE EDUCATION TRUST CONDEMNS THE KILLING OF 5 POLICE OFFICERS AND A MEMBER OF THE SANDF AT ENGCOBO, EASTERN CAPE

The Chairperson of the SAPS Education Trust, Father Smangaliso Mkhathshwa and the Board of Trustees send condolences to the families of the officers and the soldier killed in the attack on the police station in Engcobo. The SAPS Education Trust is an initiative by SAPS to assist with the education of children of SAPS employees who have died or been killed in the line of duty or on duty.

These were not only police officers who were serving their country. They were also fathers, sons, uncles and husbands on whom their families depended on for support. More support for the SAPS trust will enable us to give more support to the beneficiaries.

The SAPS Education Trust has since 2013 paid for 944 applicants at a cost of over five million rand. This represents more than two hundred children who have been left without a breadwinner.

We appeal to the community to assist the police in the arrest and conviction of the perpetrators. The SAPS cannot defeat crime alone. We need a joint effort between the police and citizenry. The murders of police officers by criminals poses a serious threat to our hard-won democracy.

May the blood of the slain officers not be spilled in vain. May their souls rest in peace.

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