SUPERCOP

#CrimeMustFall
A marbled sculpture shall rise to their memory, engraved stone shall bear record of their deeds, and their remembrance shall be as lasting as the land they honoured.
NEW UNITS TO FIGHT THE USE OF DRUGS AND FIREARMS IN AFFLICTED COMMUNITIES

By Lt Col Norman Joseph

**Cape Town:** Funding for the Hawks has been increased to R1.4 billion in the 2016/2017 financial year and will be used to establish specialised drug and firearm units.

The Minister of Police, Mr Nathi Nhleko, made this announcement when he delivered his budget vote speech in Parliament on Thursday, 21 April 2016. The theme for the budget vote speech was: “Building a united front to help and protect communities.”

Mr Nhleko said: “A decision was taken to re-establish the Narcotics Bureau and the Firearm Investigation Combating units because of the need and the outcry from our citizens.” The Minister further said that the units would be established under the Hawks, as announced by President Jacob Zuma during his State of the Nation Address in February.

Mr Nhleko said that it would be the last year that the Hawks would be funded by the SAPS. He said: “In the outer years of this period, the Hawks will be funded directly from Treasury and this should satisfy compliance with the ruling of the Constitutional Court in entrenching the independence of the unit.”

In 2014, the Constitutional Court found the laws governing the Hawks unconstitutional, saying it was not sufficiently independent from the police.

Mr Nhleko further said: “Somewhere in the beautiful, vast landscape of KwaMhlabuyalingana, stays a granny; a lone defenceless granny whose only hope for protection, as it seems, lies in her God.”

“She lives with the beautiful memories of her little daughter, who like many others, went to seek her fortunes in the cities.”

“Today, her daughter works as a teacher in Durban (eThekwini) and resides in the very popular township of Vuwani.”

Uqogo does have beautiful recollections of her grandchildren, one of whom is a graduate of law and is serving articles at a popular law firm in Sandton, closer to her uncle, uMalume, who has a small business on the busy streets of the theater of a workman’s dreams, Johannesburg.

“Although this family is scattered all over the country, there are two very important threads that continue to bond them together. Firstly, it is their blood. Secondly, and similarly, quite importantly, the fact that they are under the care and protection of a government that cares.”

“We also tell a story of how Lucinda Evans and her neighbours in Lavender Hill on the Cape Flats always dreaded the onset of the festive season. ‘After all, it is at this time that the gang wars are at their worst, when the already compromised quality of life deteriorates even further. The easy access to alcohol and drugs accentuates the social crimes.’

“December 2015 was no different. Or so they thought. They braced themselves for another unfestive season, but their fears did not materialize.”

“Instead, a different war played out; a war for good. Police patrols took over the streets, making it possible for women and children to walk with less trepidation. Children, for a change, took full advantage of the glorious summer and played, as children should, with gay abandon. ‘Gangsters were put on notice. Drug dealers and peddlers lost ground. Other criminal elements that looked forward to taking advantage of the season suddenly found themselves having to deal with the law enforcement officers who were out in full force. A sense of tentative peace engulfed the community.”

“In response, Lucinda and her friends turned their efforts to making the lives of the officers on duty easier. They opened their hearts and pooled together their resources to serve warm meals to officers keeping their neighbourhoods safe at night. The community made sure that they gave the police all the support they needed for effective policing to happen. This is the story of a community and their police.”

“This Budget Vote is dedicated to all the Lucindas of the world, the unsung heroes and heroines, for playing their part, expecting no reward or favour for doing what they believe is right.”

“Regarding the recent violence in Kwamuhlu, Limpopo, the Minister said: ‘I take this opportunity to congratulate our police members for handling this situation in the most responsible manner under the circumstances, especially the arrest that have been effected.’

“We earnestly appeal to the community of Kwamuhlu and anywhere in our beautiful land to reject the criminal elements, the inhumane beings who use the genuine grievances of our people to commit such heinous acts.”

“We thank acting Minister Mahlobo, Minister Van Rooyen and the Deputy Minister Sotyu for their leadership in intervening in Kwamuhlu.”
The South African Police Service’s (SAPS) Central Firearms Registry was one of several hundred exhibitors at the annual Huntex Expo held at the Gallagher Estate from 15 to 17 April 2016.

Huntex is an international consumer expo which became a major showcase for the hunting, sport-shooting, game breeding, game farming, personal defence and protection industries, in the last five years.

Members of the FLASH (SAPS’s Central Firearms Registry, Liquor licensing and Second Hand Goods section) attended the exhibition to assist members of the public with firearm related issues.

The SAPS desk had an endless queue of visitors who enquired about the status of their firearm licences and other important firearms related issues.

Members of the FLASH team held a similar outreach at the Bloemfontein show grounds from 28 April to 3 May 2016, during the annual Bloemfontein show.

Any people will immediately think of running for their lives when confronted with gun-toting criminals, but running away was not an option for Const Thabo Mooi when he unilaterally foiled an ATM robbery that was about to happen. Const Mooi is stationed at the Benoni Police Station in the East Rand.

Several months ago, Const Mooi did random patrols with his colleague, when they were confronted by 17 heavily-armed potential bank robbers who wanted to blow up (bombe) an ATM in the Ekurhuleni in order to get their hands on the loot. He explained that when his adrenalin started pumping, he immediately knew that they needed to perform serious actions to prevent this crime from happening.

“I was with my colleague doing random patrols in the Emfulwane Section in the Ekurhuleni, when we spotted a group of criminals who appeared to be having the intention to blow up (bombe) an ATM. When they saw us, the immediately started opening fire at us”, said Const Mooi in a telephonic interview with the Police Magazine. The member’s first reaction was to take cover as they were outnumbered by the 17 criminals. His colleague managed to evade the gunfire, but he was trapped inside the police vehicle. The door locks seemed to have jammed as the doors would not open. At that point, he realised that the only way to fend off the criminals was to shoot back at them, which he did. Against all belief, the criminals realised that he was putting up a serious fight and ran away scattered in all directions.

It is common knowledge that bank and ATM robberies have increased drastically in the recent past and that the police are prioritising action steps in dealing with this scourge. In line with the back-to-basics approach, the organisation will intensify police visibility as a way to deter potential criminals. There are a number of crime categories that the Ministry of Police has prioritised.

The country has seen a surge in the number of police killings in the previous financial year and this has prompted the country’s leadership to publicly condemn the frequency and callousness of the criminal’s actions toward law enforcement officials. The police leadership even announced it publicly that the men and women in blue should use maximum force, when they are confronted with life-threatening situations. However, the police have been warned to do so within the confines of the law.

Confronted with a life-threatening situation the only thing you think of is to protect yourself and your colleagues… I had to fire back at them because they were hell-bent on shooting and killing us”, said Const Mooi. He said another motivating factor was his memory of the oath of office he undertook when he took up policing. “I remembered that I became a police officer because I was prepared to serve and protect the inhabitants of my country; I could not help but to think that it was my ultimate duty to ensure that our lives were protected by using everything we had at our disposal to defend our selves,” he added.

Const Mooi has also encouraged other police officers on patrol to ensure that they had sufficient backup from their colleagues to deal with callous criminals who have no regard for human life. Above all, he said that it is important for police officers to have the courage and be bold enough when dealing with confrontational and life-threatening situations. “I feel very proud to have made a difference and prevented this action from happening, but over and above all, this experience made me to also appreciate the value of life”, he said.
Speaking at the second and last day of the conference, the Dep Nat Comm of the Human Resources Management, Lt Gen Bonang Mgwenya, assured the members that proper monitoring and evaluation system tools have been implemented.

In order to avoid a structure deviating from its core responsibilities and ensuring that they are always on track, we have developed a template of an action plan as an efficient monitoring and evaluation tool ensuring that every role player is aware of what is expected from him or her; the exact time frames allocated to a duty or project and their key responsibilities. We will further monitor the progress made by the various role players by convening quarterly meetings to monitor their progress and also to assist when members are encountering unforeseen challenges. We will also convene an annual meeting in which we will be evaluating the progress made as some of the systems needs to be guarded against the collapsing of projects,” said Lt Gen Mgwenya.

While addressing the participants on last day of the conference, the Deputy Minister of Police, Ms Maggie Makhotso Sotyu, called on the women and men in blue to work together to ensure the effective functioning of both the Women’s Network and the Men for Change.

“This relaunch would have been futile, if we had left out the SAPS’s Men for Change. We desperately need men to contribute to the discussions and the ultimate attainment of gender equality”, said Ms Sotyu.

She emphasised that we want to see our men and women in blue interconnected and related in a gender-equal system in terms of our Constitution. She added that building gender equality and to prevent and combat gender-based violence, cannot be a women’s issue only, but it is a human issue, which must ultimately involve men and even boys.

She further said that both the SAPS’s networks must continue to be a visible part of the like-formations in the law enforcement sector and to be part of all the community programmes, such as the August month activities. She urged members to continue with their vision in our rural communities. “Indeed we are very proud of you, when I visited those rural areas, I heard of the good work you were doing for the needy and the elderly people”, said Ms Sotyu.

She also added that the two networks have to build confidence among police officials. “Let us as leadership bring hope – Tour behind bars’ needs to find meaning in our strategy imperative”.

The objective of the revival of the two structures was to ensure a strong support structure for female employees in the SAPS; facilitate the advancing of their careers through leadership training programmes, among others, to develop a calibre woman capable of independent thinking impacting positively to a quality policing service, contributing toward combating gender-based violence, as well as providing a platform for addressing personal and work-related problems in a sensitive and confidential manner, with the Men for Change as a leading agent.

The two structures were established in 2003 and 2004 respectively. Their main aim is to champion the rights of the most vulnerable groups in society and to ensure that female emancipation was realised. Simultaneously, the Men for Change dealt with the critical role of eradicating gender-based violence and the challenges faced by men.

The SAPS’s strategies, policies, Standing Orders and National Instructions are aimed at personifying all facets of gender equality. It is the Women’s Network in partnership with the Men for Change, as well as the involvement of other relevant stakeholders externally and in the SAPS that should champion matters of gender equality; discrimination against women; training, development and the promotion of women; sexual harassment and gender-based violence and thereby influencing the policies and strategic objectives of the SAPS.

The Men for Change was established in 2004 and played a critical role in dealing with issues about crimes against humanity which constitute gender-based violence involving the use of firearms in most cases, femicide, alcohol and drug abuse. These programmes form part of the strategic priorities of the SAPS.

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AN UNLIKELY MIRACLE

Article by Capt SP Magwasa

Sgt Clinton Odayer from the uMhlali Search and Rescue K9 Unit and his canine partner, Dante, left the community of Lindelani and Ntuzuma enthralled in March 2016, after they had pulled off quite a miracle.

On Saturday 19 March 2016, the 18-month-old Samkelo Cele was playing outside his house at Ntuzuma, when he went missing. His aunt and grandmother were worried and started a frantic search for the young child, but their efforts were in vain. When the child’s parents returned from work, they were informed of what had happened. They joined the search with the community members. However, young Samkelo was nowhere to be found. Searches continued throughout the Saturday and Sunday but the little boy was still missing.

The search was particularly challenging because of the torrential rains and low temperatures over that weekend. Suspicions of foul play made the rounds and the parents prepared themselves for the worst.

On Monday, 21 March 2016, the Ntuzuma police members were informed about the incident and after assessing the situation, they decided that a SAPS search and rescue team must be deployed to the scene. Sgt Odayer was assigned to the case and on his arrival he was briefed by both the local police and the family members. It was already late in the day and because of the rapidly fading light, Sgt Odayer decided to continue the search the next day with the assistance of a search dog trained for such cases.

When he returned the next day, he brought his search dog, Dante, along and started searching. He said, “due to the number of days that had passed and the fact that the weather had wreaked havoc during that weekend, I thought by myself that Dante and I were looking for a dead body. I went to an area which had a dense vegetation, Dante picked up a scent. When he returned the next day, he brought his search dog, Dante, along and started searching. He said, “due to the number of days that had passed and the fact that the weather had wreaked havoc during that weekend, I thought by myself that Dante and I were looking for a dead body. I went to an area which had a dense vegetation, Dante picked up a scent. When he returned the next day, he brought his search dog, Dante, along and started searching.

Dante led me to a patch of thick foliage and when I looked closely I saw the young boy sitting very still in the bushes. As soon as I picked him up, he started crying which was a good sign that he still had the energy to cry.”

The baby was rushed to the clinic where he was examined and treated for slight dehydration. Young Samkelo’s parents are overjoyed to have their baby back alive and safe. It is thanks to the tenacity of Sgt Odayer who refused to give up on finding the boy and insisted on searching the area again that young Samkelo has been found alive and is reunited with his parents. We commend the commitment of Sgt Odayer for saving the baby and helping to build the community’s trust in the South African Police Service (SAPS).

Sgt Odayer started working at the SAPS in 2001 and has an uninterrupted service of 15 years. He became an operational member in 2003, after completing the SAPS Basic Training. He first worked at the Brixton Flying Squad and was later transferred to the uMhlali Flying Squad. In 200, he joined the uMhlali K9 Unit.

HUMAN RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT AIDS AT ALIGNING DRILLING MOVEMENTS AT ALL TRAINING ACADEMIES

By Lieutenant Kgabo Mashambate and Ms Naledi Mazibuko

Photographs by WO Anne Magakoe

“In line with the back-to-basics approach aimed at addressing discipline in the SAPS, all training academies across the country will conform to standardised drilling methods and movements.” That was the assurance from Brigadier Paul Mphithyeke, the Section Head of Basic Police Development Provisioning, during a four-day Standardisation Drilling Training Session at the Boithuso Human Resources Development station in Botshabelo, Bloemfontein on 5 April 2016.

“During our routine inspection at different training academies across the country, we picked up a pattern whereby our recruits from almost all training academies execute different drilling movements and as such, it created confusion in the SAPS. Drilling is part of ensuring discipline in the SAPS and it needs to be attended to as a matter of urgency. That is why we have convened this workshop to train the train course on drilling execution. We invited instructors from all academies to attend a workshop on standardised drilling movements. It is also important for us to prepare our students in drilling methods so that they will be able to participate in various competitions where the SAPS participates as well as, participating in funeral proceedings and other ceremonial activities of the SAPS,” Brigadier Mphithyeke elaborated.

According to Brigadier Sammy Thombo, Section Head: Field Development, there is a great need to update drilling manuals and procedures books to ensure all trainers at different academies follow the same methods.

“When we conclude with this workshop on Friday, we are going to sit down and update our Standard Operating Procedures and drilling manuals, in order to ensure that all our academies conform to the same standards. Currently our drilling manuals are outdated and this creates confusion for our drilling instructors because there are no standardised drilling movements and as such, you will find two academies implementing different drilling movements. We hope that all 37 instructors who converged here this week, will assist to empower their peers with the aligned drilling movements, so that all institutions will adhere to the same standards,” Brigadier Thombo said.

Lieutenant Petros Seboba, a senior instructor based at the Basic Police Development Provisioning Section within the Human Resources Development Division at Head Office, was hard at work demonstrating the acceptable execution of the drilling movements in line with the police standards.

“The workshop consists of theoretical and practical aspects and as such, there is a need to apply those movements practically, so that the instructors will be able to understand them better. There are various drilling movements for different occasions, and as such, they need to be applied correctly.” Lieutenant Seboba said.

Warrant Officer Adele Espag, drilling instructor at the Tshwane Training Academy, who was among 37 peers from all academies across the country said, “the workshop has enriched her a great deal because she will be able to present drilling movements for different events to her students with confidence, from now on.”

The train-the-trainer workshop on drilling movements for standardised training held from 5 to 8 April 2016, covered aspects such as the formation and sitting of a platoon, squad drilling (stationary movement), stationary quick mark time (halt and forward), squad drilling on the march (quick time), orientation and marching, changing directions in three’s (left and right wheels), saluting and compliments (theory and practical), turning in quick time (left, right and about turn), salutes on the march (left, right and to the front) in quick time, slow mark time (halt and forward), slow march, turning in slow time (left, right and about turn), slow march, as well as ceremonial drilling movements, such as the parade preparations and protocol, opening of provincial legislature, Commemoration Day, opening of police station and flag-hoisting ceremony, theory and explanation on a military funeral, among other things.

Lieutenant Petros Seboba assists drill instructors to maintain a correct drill file during the practical session of the standardisation of drill training workshop at the Boithuso Human Resources Development Division, Botshabelo Location in the Free State Province.
The detectives’ hard work in ensuring justice and closure for the victims of crime, continues to be recognised at the Matla A Bana Awards ceremony held at the Rosebank Union Church on 23 April 2016. The objective of the biannual event is to provide an incentive to the Gauteng FCS (Family Violence, Child Protection and Sexual Offences) members in the form of awards in order to encourage them to walk the extra mile in rendering excellent service and outstanding investigative work in preparing for court procedures.

Delivering his motivational speech to the hard-working police, Mr Marco Coetzer, Managing Director of KW Management, we are indeed grateful for their efforts in work is indeed appreciated. On behalf of the provincial Commander, said on behalf of the Provincial Detective Services, “The awards should serve as a motivation to all members to continue giving their best. This ensures that your hard detective work is being recognised, even in challenging times, to ensure justice to the vulnerable in accordance with the police’s constitutional mandate of preventing, combating and investigating crime, maintaining public order, protecting and serving the inhabitants of the RSA and their property, and upholding and enforcing the law. This has helped the victims with finding closure because you ensured that the perpetrators are permanently removed from our streets. As we know that this is not an easy task of the members of the panel to adjudicate the flood of outstanding entries received every six months, the recipients and finalists should know that their hard work is indeed appreciated. On behalf of the provincial management, we are indeed grateful for their efforts in restoring the public’s faith in the police to successfully investigate crime.”

Delivering his motivational speech to the hard-working detectives, Mr Marco Coetzer, Managing Director of KW Advance, urged the detectives to ensure that while they are pursuing justice, their personal lives also receive attention.

“In life, a person needs to satisfy the so-called ‘big rocks’ such as friends, family, personal growth, health and spiritual life and this should receive preference in our lives; otherwise we are bound to live an unbalanced and incomplete life. We should also understand that we need good health to discharge our duties diligently, friends to share our frustrations with, family for when the going gets tough to provide a solid structure, as well as a spiritual life to provide strength. The policing environment requires spiritual upliftment as it is so strenuous. That is why police members have a greater need to balance their wheel of life effectively,” Coetzer, a former police member, urged the delegates.

In her closing remarks, Ms Lizel van Eeden, the national coordinator, thanked all members for making the lives of abused children easier by assisting them at their time of greatest need. The recipients of the biannual excellent service delivery incentives, were the following:

Outstanding Achievements Category
1. WO Moshe Molawa of the Ga-Rankuwa and Mabopane FCS Unit brought justice to the community by investigating, arresting and linking two accused taxi drivers to more than 27 cases of rape. WO Molawa secured the conviction of the two accused, who were terrorising women under the pretext of offering them a lift home from work. The accused would then drive into the bushes and rape their victims. They were given three life sentences and approximately 188 years’ imprisonment.

2. Const John Mokoena of the Provincial FCS Investigation Unit successfully investigated, tracked and arrested the accused. He secured 12 life sentences and 116 years for the accused, who targeted schoolboys aged between 11 and 14 years old. The accused person asked his victims to help him carry boxes and upon their arrival at the railway tracks, the accused raped and robbed the boys of their cell phones. The detective’s exceptional efforts earned him the respect of his peers.

Best Performer Category
The star in the Best Performer Category, was Capt Selaelo Jerry Ramabala of the Provincial FCS Investigation Unit. Capt Ramabala managed to track, arrest and secure the conviction of a paedophile, Peter Dashboy Khora, for preying on 76 victims between the ages of six and twelve years old. He raped all of them. This followed on Capt Ramabala’s awareness campaign at various schools where he advised children not to speak to strangers or accept any help from them, and then some of them disclosed their ordeal. Capt Ramabala combed various hideouts, including dumping sites, where he managed to arrest the accused and successfully linked him to 26 cases in which minors were involved. During the trial, 152 charges that included 37 cases of rape, were brought against Khora. He was found guilty on 139 charges and was sentenced to 28 life sentences and 538 years’ imprisonment.

The second place in the Best Performer Category went to Sgt Sepakela of Tambisa FCS Unit for his efforts in eradicating crimes against the vulnerable in the Tambisa area. After one boy disclosed to his pastor his rape ordeal at the hands of his teacher, Sgt Sepakela took it upon himself to investigate the matter and in the meantime, encouraging school learners to come forward if they had been exposed to incidents of rape or child pornography. About nine boys aged between 10 and 16 years came forward, and were found to have been violated by the accused schoolteacher. The accused was arrested and found guilty. He received a combined 20 years and seven life sentences for the crimes.

The outstanding detective efforts of WO Barnard Smith of the Moroka FCS Unit, earned him the third place in the Best Performers Category, after he successfully traced all the victims in 22 cases, obtained a chain of statements, hosted an identity parade and ensured that all the rape victims attended. WO Smith also managed to bring closure to the rape victims in securing a heavy sentence for the accused. The accused would meet his victims at the taxi rank and train station on the pretext of looking for directions. He would then go in the same direction as his victims, convinced them to accompany him and rape the victims at knife point. The accused was found guilty on several counts and received two life terms and more than 384 years’ imprisonment for his crimes.

Best FCS Officer
Lt. Jeff Leikalakala of the Temba FCS Unit ensured that the serial rapist of Soshangwe was apprehended and linked to 15 rape cases involving women and two children. The rapist, who had beads on his penis, faced 45 charges in total, and received four life sentences and 213 years’ imprisonment.

Service Excellence Awards – for individuals who had a positive impact on the community and made a difference in the lives of women and children.
WO Hendrik Visser of the Mamelodi FCS Unit ensured that the community’s confidence and trust in the police were reinstated through his perseverance and professional conduct. WO Visser investigated, traced and arrested three accused persons for hijacking a taxi and shooting the driver in the stomach, kidnapping two females, raping them and attempting murder. All three of the accused were found guilty and sentenced to four life sentences and 249 years behind bars.
Sgt Mammotho Leitlake of the Vereeniging FCS Unit managed to restore the community’s confidence in the ability of the police to bring perpetrators to book. Sgt Leitlake successfully investigated a case in which two females had been raped in December 2014. He enlisted the services of the K7 Unit and arranged for an identity parade to be held. Only one victim could link the suspect to the crime. Her relentless efforts paid off when the DNA results came back positive and the accused was given two life sentences and 30 years’ imprisonment.
STOP DOMESTIC VIOLENCE
GRANT YOUR CHILD THE RIGHT TO BE PROTECTED FROM ABUSE

Compiled by
EHW: Social Work Services

C hild Protection Week was held from 27 May to 2 June 2016. The purpose of the week is to raise awareness of the rights of children annually, as stipulated in the Children’s Act of 2005. Although the event is observed once a year, the protection of our children should never stop.

Preventing and combating crime against children, is a priority for government. The African proverb: “it takes a village to raise a child” calls for a collective responsibility of communities to raise children, where “Your Child is My Child”. The Government believes that “all parents, guardians and older members of the community should look out for each other’s children”.

The Department of Social Development states that “Children in South Africa live in a society with a Constitution that has the highest regard for their rights and for the equality and dignity of everyone. Protecting children from violence, exploitation and abuse is not only a basic value, but also an obligation as clearly set out in section 28 of the South African Constitution”. Section 28 of the Bill of Rights in our Constitution also states that “every child has the right to basic nutrition, shelter, health care and social services, as well as the right to be protected from maltreatment, neglect, abuse or degradation”.

The Domestic Violence Roundtable (Sudbury-Wayland-Lincoln) studied the problem of children being exposed to domestic violence, witnessing abuse in their own homes. According to them “witnessing can mean SEEING actual incidents of physical and/or sexual abuse. It can mean HEARING threats or fighting noises from another room. Children may also OBSERVE the aftermath of physical abuse such as blood, bruises, tears, torn clothing, and broken items. Finally children may be AWARE of the tension in the home such as their mother’s fearfulness when the abuse car pulls into the driveway”.

“Children who are exposed to domestic violence at home, become fearful and anxious. The exposure continuously put them on guard, waiting for the next time... Never knowing what will trigger the abuse, never feeling safe. They may feel worthless and powerless.”

“Children from abusive homes can look fine to the outside world, but inside they are in terrible pain. Their families are chaotic and crazy. They may blame themselves for the abuse, thinking if they had not done or said a particular thing, the abuse would not have occurred. They may also become angry at their siblings or their mother for triggering the abuse. They may feel rage, embarrassment and humiliation.”

“The effects on the child witnessing domestic violence, are long-term. “Whether or not children are physically abused, they often suffer emotional and psychological trauma from living in homes where their fathers abuse their mothers. Children whose mothers are abused; are denied the kind of home life that fosters healthy development. Children who grow up observing their mothers being abused, especially by their fathers; grow up with a role model of intimate relationships in which one person uses intimidation and violence over the other person to have their way. Because children have a natural tendency to identify with strength, they may associate themselves with the abuser and lose respect for their seemingly helpless mother. Seeing their mothers treated with enormous disrespect, teaches children that they can disrespect women the way their fathers do”.

Experts believe and research has confirmed that children who are raised in abused homes, learn that violence is “an effective way to resolve conflict and problems”. Children may repeat the violence they witnessed as children, in their future romantic and parental relationships. “Boys who witness their mothers’ abuse, are more likely to batter their female partners as adults than boys raised in non-violent homes. For girls, adolescence may result in the belief that threats and violence are the norm in relationships.”

It is also shown that children from violent homes have ‘higher risks of alcohol/drug abuse, post-traumatic stress disorder and juvenile delinquency. Witnessing domestic violence is the single best predictor of juvenile delinquency and adult criminality. It is also the number one reason children run away from home”.

Children witnessing domestic violence are, therefore, being abused, which is in direct conflict with their born right to be protected against abuse. Children witnessing domestic violence are prone to become abusers or victims themselves – starting the evil cycle all over again...

The Domestic Violence Desk, Lt Col Gerber at 079 880 5966 or GerberChirana@saps.gov.za.

Let us grant our children (“Your Child is My Child”) the RIGHT TO BE PROTECTED FROM ABUSE and ALLOW THEM TO BECOME THE MAN OR WOMAN YOU WANT TO BE... STOP DOMESTIC VIOLENCE!

“Children of abuse feel isolated and vulnerable. They are starved for attention, affection and approval. Because mom (or dad) is struggling to survive, she (he) is often not present for her (his) children. Because dad (mom) is so consumed with controlling everyone, he (she) also is not present for his (her) children. These children become physically, emotionally and psychologically abandoned.”

The emotional responses of children witnessing domestic violence, “may include fear, guilt, shame, sleep disturbances, sadness, depression and anger” at both the victim and the perpetrator. Contact the domestic violence desk, Lt Col Gerber at 079 880 5966 or GerberChirana@saps.gov.za.

“The behavioural responses of children who witness domestic violence, may include acting out, withdrawal or anxiety. Others may be injured while trying to intervene on behalf of their mother or a sibling”. The effects on the child witnessing domestic violence, are

Experts believe and research has confirmed that children who are raised in abused homes, learn that violence is “an effective way to resolve conflict and problems”. Children may repeat the violence they witnessed as children, in

aggression toward their peers or parent(s). They can even become self-injuring.”

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Social Work Services is available 24 hours to support victims, provide guidance and therapeutic assistance to both the victim and the perpetrator. Contact the stand-by number 082 301 2138. For more information, contact the Domestic Violence Desk, Lt Col Gerber at 079 880 5966 or Gerberchirana@saps.gov.za.
STEALING THE NAMES OF THE DEAD

By Maj Karlien van der Merwe

In the course of conducting research for the article “Where there’s a will, there’s a way” published in a previous issue of the Journal Online/POlice, financial advisors and digital security experts warned against criminal cartels cashing in on the identities of the dead.

In a country rife with poverty, selling a deceased family member’s identity book for cash to the highest bidder may help a grieving family to keep the wolf from the door for a little while. But when that identity book is used to commit fraud, the wolf could turn into a debt collector’s iron fist. In cases like these, being in possession of the loved one’s death certificate would be the only way of proving that the debt had been incurred after the person’s death. That is why obtaining a valid death certificate is important, and why it should be treated in the same way as other important documents.

Another modus operandi favoured by syndicates is collecting information about deceased persons from epitaphs, obituaries and social media posts. Syndicates match the age of a client with the age of the deceased so that identity numbers will seem plausible. Such information may be sold to independent vendors on the so-called dark net, the criminal underbelly of the internet.

Preventing the identity of deceased persons from getting stolen is up to the living, and the general common sense rules that apply to safeguarding one’s identity on social media platforms are also applicable when posting an obituary online or in the media. Verbally paying homage to someone who has passed on is a ritual embedded in society, but care must be taken not to publish information such as the birth date, occupation, full names and physical address that criminals could use as keys to unlock more information about the deceased.

With the SAPS being under resourced and ill-equipped to reactively address this type of sophisticated fraud, the question begs to be answered: Can the recycling of dead people’s identities in any way be prevented?

David Jacobs, a forensic specialist at Strategic Investigations and Seminars (SIS) says that in an attempt to aid the SAPS and the people of South Africa in the prevention of this type of crime, his company has launched a register of the dead. People who have lost a relative can register them on the Independent Identity Verification database free of charge. Once registered, SIS can prevent that identity from being recycled for crime. “If a fraudster attempts to use that identity, it will be flagged by our systems and rejected,” he explained. To register your deceased free of charge, go to www.2iv.co.za.

Additional source:

CONVICTED SWISS FUGITIVE CAPTURED

IN A MULTINATIONAL POLICE STING OPERATION

By Lt Vincent Mukhati
Photographs/ WO Anne Magakoe

A multinational, intelligence-driven police sting operation led to the arrest of a convicted Swiss fugitive drug trafficker, Daniel Alfred Berger. Berger was arrested in Muldersdrift in Gauteng in the early hours of 26 April 2016 after being on the run for the past 18 years.

The Hawks, the SAPS Air Wing, the Special Task Force, Interpol and the SAPS’s K9 units, in partnership with the Swiss and French governments, conducted the multinational police operation.

In 1998, 47-year-old Daniel Berger was found guilty of trafficking drugs from the USA to Switzerland. He was then convicted to nine years’ imprisonment (in absentia). Berger fled from Switzerland to Australia and the Swiss police were unable to trace him until he was recently traced in South Africa. The multinational police team surveyed Berger for a few days and found that he was living at plot 50 in Swartkop in Muldersdrift. He was eventually arrested there.

According to the Head of the SAPS’s Victim Identification Centre (VIC), Brigadier Leonie Ras, they received a request from the Federal Police of Switzerland on 23 December 2015 to assist with the case of this missing person. Follow-up information revealed that the missing person was actually a fugitive. He was wanted by the Swiss police to serve a nine-year sentence for the smuggling of drugs.

“We followed up on certain links we had received and we interviewed his girlfriend without her knowing that the wanted person was her boyfriend,” said Brigadier Ras. She also explained that Berger had entered South Africa with a Bulgarian passport during the 2010 World Cup and since then he was working in the country, repairing computers. He came to South Africa under a new name and he actually used his mother’s maiden surname as his new identity.

The VIC was able to use his fingerprints and an old photograph that they had received from the Swiss police. “We aged the photograph of him (as a young man) in order to get the present-day image of the wanted fugitive,” said Brigadier Ras.

“Because of the intricate layout of his property and because we did not really know whom we were dealing with, we approached the Special Task Force to assist with the arrest and secure the property on 26 April 2016. We found the person fitting the description of Daniel Berger. We had the original fingerprints of the fugitive at the scene and, therefore, we were able to confirm his identity. He was not Daniel Alfred Moral, but Daniel Alfred Berger,” said Brigadier Ras.

The police also found drugs and computers, and seized cellular phones, two laptops and a hard drive. Interpol officials arrested him and took him to the Muldersdrift Police Station for the necessary statements to be taken. Inspector Ralf Kock of the Federal Police of Switzerland applaudied the SAPS for effecting the arrest of Daniel Berger in a professional manner. He said that the police members showed discipline and professionalism as they arrested the wanted fugitive.

He said: “The Swiss authorities are currently completing his extradition from South Africa to Switzerland. Once he arrives in Switzerland, he will immediately start serving his nine-year sentence for drug smuggling.”

Brigadier Ras thanked all the role players for their commitment and dedication to finding and arresting the fugitive. "It just proves that you can run, but we will eventually find you. Berger was on the run for 18 years, but we finally arrested him,” said Brigadier Ras.
Super-Cop popular on social media

Article by Lt Keitumetse Mmushi
Photograph by WO Naledi Ndoene

Social media is abuzz with a video clip of a Pretoria North police officer who filmed an arrest of who be car thieves. The video clip shows the officer driving his motorcycle to the scene of the crime as well as the arrest of the two car thieves.

This incident happened last month, when an attempted motor vehicle theft nearby butchery in the Pretoria North area, was reported by a community member. WO Stoffel Holzhauzen responded to the report after receiving a description of the vehicle. He got the registration number of the vehicle and information that there were three suspects in the vehicle.

He used a community radio to send a look out to all the community members. Within 30 minutes one member of the community got back to him to confirm the registration of the vehicle. It was now parked in front of the court.

That’s when I put the camera on my motorcycle and went to the scene. I put the camera on for evidence purposes so that I can use it in court. This enables me to show the court precisely which suspect was on which side of the vehicle. And in case they resist arrest, I can use the footage as evidence and to safeguard myself. That way I ensure that there will not be claims of assault and so forth,” he said.

WO Holzhauzen drove to the court and enquired with the community member whether there were still occupants in the vehicle. “I then drove slowly so as not to raise the community member whether there were still occupants in the vehicle. “I then drove slowly so as not to raise the occupants’ suspicion. As I entered the parking area, the community member flashed his vehicle lights from where he was parked behind the said vehicle.”

Nowadays most car thieves are armed so he did not take any chances. When he got off the motorcycle he already had his firearm out.

“I commanded the two occupants of the vehicle to come out. While I was busy securing the one suspect, the community member was watching over the second one and that is what you cannot see on the video. As I was moving to the second suspect, I noticed that the first suspect was on his cellular phone. I went back to take the phone from him. He called the third suspect, who was inside the court.”

After he arrested the second suspect, he contacted the community members who were in civilian clothes and who had their radios hidden beneath their clothes. They went in to court to check if the third suspect was still there because they had been given a description of him. Unfortunately he had already taken off.

“When we searched the vehicle we found quite a lot of tools that criminals use to steal vehicles. They were charged for ‘When we searched the vehicle we found quite a lot of tools had already taken off.

In response, Gen Jula said that members working with gang members will face the full consequences of the law. Some of the allegations made were that some detectives are working with gang members, while others were seen parking state vehicles in front of shebeens and drug houses.

In response, Gen Jula said that members working with gang members will face the full consequences of the law. He appealed to the residents to take down the registration numbers of the vehicles parked at shebeens and drug houses, and to provide it to them. The General gave the audience his cell phone number.

Graham Lindhorst, Deputy Chairperson of the Nyanga Cluster’s CPF and Bishop Lavis CPF Chairperson, said that “...just as we stood up against apartheid in the past, we must stand up against crime and gangs...”. Addressing the audience, Gen Jula said, “We decided to take the back to the basics approach as announced recently by the Acting National Commissioner, Lt Gen Khomotso Phahlane”.

The back-to-basics approach relates to the four-pillar approach which is – rendering a good service, maintaining police visibility, forming partnerships with community organisations and creating a focussed approach regarding crime.

Regarding house robberies in the Brown’s Farm and Philippa East, Gen Jula said, “We are going to look into that”. Answering a question about the reason why the courts are giving bail to known gangsters and other criminals, Maj Gen Jeremy Viera, the Dep Prov Comm for Crime Detection, told the audience that the communities must stand up and attend these court cases, and voice their concerns at the courts so that the magistrates could make informed decisions.

Gen Jula said that consideration was given to the introduction of horse patrols.

He appealed to communities to report information regarding crime by calling the all-hours Crime-Stop number at 0860010111.
THE CLEAN BREAK PRINCIPLE IN CASE OF DIVORCE

By Maj Karien van der Merwe

T he “clean break” principle relating to members and their spouses was introduced into the Government Employees Pension Fund (GEPF) legislation to bring it in line with global best practices and to provide a more equitable solution in case of divorce.

Prior to this, when a GEPF member and his or her non-member spouse divorced, the non-member spouse could only claim their portion of the pension when the member spouse exited from the Fund. This often led to significant delays in payment.

With the adoption of the clean break principle, the portion of the pension interest assigned to the non-member spouse is determined in terms of the Divorce Act, 1979 (Act No 70 of 1979), is now payable on the date the divorce is granted. The pension interest assigned to the non-member spouse as a result of divorce settlement, or the debt can be deducted from the member’s benefit when he or she exits the Fund.

The advantage of the “notional debt” approach is that the member’s service is not adjusted as a result of the divorce settlement, and therefore the member’s benefits and enhancements are not affected.

When the GPF receives a divorce order it calculates the member’s resignation benefit on the date of divorce. The amount due to the spouse is then calculated according to the prescripts of the divorce order and the spouse is requested to indicate if the amount should be paid as a cash amount or transferred to an approved retirement fund.

A debt (equal to the amount that was paid to the spouse) is created against the member and interest is levied on that debt. The member is then given a choice to repay the debt owed to the Fund over an agreed period, or the debt can be deducted from the member’s benefit when he or she exits the Fund.

The implementation of the clean break principle was further made necessary by a judgment issued by the High Court of South Africa that ruled that pension provisions in the Constitution of the Republic of South Africa to the extent that it failed to afford former spouses of members of the Fund the same rights and advantages applicable to former spouses of members of funds regulated by the Pension Funds Act.

However, there were a number of implications that needed to be considered in implementing the clean break principle such as tax implications, the date of accrual, the deemed withdrawal benefit, the reduction in respect of the amount paid to the non-member spouse, and the interest on the amount paid to the non-member spouse. The Board considered reducing the member’s service years or creating a debt against the member as the two options that could have been implemented. However, there were a number of complications that made the reduction of the member’s benefit or service years not an option for the GEPF. The Board of Trustees decided to treat the divorce settlement paid to the non-member spouse as a “notional debt” owed to the GEPF, which would be deducted against a member’s benefit upon their final exit from the Fund.

THE RESIGNATION PROCESS

By Maj Karien van der Merwe

T he GEPF urges members who are planning to resign from the SAPS to notify their employer at least one month in advance in order to allow sufficient time for their documents to be processed by SAPS Head Office and the GEPF.

That being said, the final audited leave form of the resigning member is only attached by the SAPS HRM department on the member’s exit date. However, getting all the documentation ready beforehand does lessen the stress, especially in case of resignation on short notice.

Members who resign must complete the following forms:

• Resignation choice form: On this form the member must indicate whether the pension benefit must be paid into his or her bank account, or be transferred to an approved fund.

• 21925: This form contains the particulars of an approved external retirement fund. It must be completed by the member’s financial advisor and confirmed by the member should he or she opt to have the benefit transferred to an external fund.

• 2984 (Bank Form.) This form must be completed by the bank if the member opted for the pension benefit to be paid into his or her bank account. A date stamp, a bank stamp along with the member’s thumb print must be clearly printed on the form.

• A form containing five signature samples of the resigning member, along with an affidavit by the resigning member and the commissioner of oaths.

• Exit interview, completed and signed by interviewee and interviewee.

• Covering letter by the member’s commander.

• Certified copies of bar-coded ID document.

• Notice of resignation in the form of a letter written by the member.

USEFUL TIPS: Stamps must be clearly printed in black ink, and the same goes for 10 document copies – the bar code must be clearly visible on the copies.

Special care must be taken that thumb prints are clear, with the ridge detail in the centre of the fingerprint well-defined. It may be a good idea to take a colleague along who is well-versed in the proper taking of fingerprints if a member is unfamiliar with this process. There must be no mistakes or smudges on the forms. It is also important to know that when a member choses to take all of his or her annual vacation leave before resigning, he or she will have to, in the words of one of our country’s colourful orators, “pay back the money” depending on the allocation of leave days within the financial year.

The following rules apply should a member choose to have the pension benefit transferred to an approved fund:

• The GEPF will only transfer benefits to an approved fund that is registered with the South African Financial Services Board (FSB).

• No transfers to provident funds are allowed.

• The full actuarial interest is transferred to the new fund and, depending on the new fund’s rules, the member can withdraw one third after reaching the age of 55. It is the member’s responsibility to ensure that he or she does not have any debt or divorce gravity to an ex-spouse, as it will influence the one third deduction. The remaining two thirds will be used to procure an annuity which will be payable monthly.

The following documents must be submitted:

• Certified copy of green bar-coded ID document.

• Copy of the divorce and settlement agreement where applicable.

• Forms to be completed by the member’s HRM department. In case of departmental liability, the completed Departamental Liability Claim Form must be completed by the employer and signed by both the employer and the member.

• Z102: Withdrawal from Fund form.

• Last salary pay slip.

• Proof of service termination (Persal printout).

Members are advised to settle all outstanding debts with the employer prior to exiting to avoid debts being deducted from their pension benefit.

Outstanding income tax matters should also be settled with SARS prior to a member’s exit. Members earning more than R60 000 must be registered with SARS as a taxpayer, and must have a valid income tax number.

It is very important for members to confirm their starting date as a GEPF member. Their HRM department will have this information on record.

Source: GEPF Funds

GEPF Tollfree number: 0800 117 669
Website: www.gepf.co.za

Disclaimer: This article is for general information purposes only. It is advised that members planning to resign, liaise directly with SAPS Head Office to ascertain that their HRM departments have the correct forms and know the latest procedures.
A senior police officer, based at the Bloemfontein K9 Unit, walked more than 1000 km to the Mother City in honour of his wife and raised R40 000.00 for the Cancer Association of South Africa (Cansa).

Lt Col Deon van der Merwe, the Bloemfontein Cancer association, after walking more than 1000 km in memory of his wife Johlene and the Bloemfontein Cancer association, after dogs. Col Van der Merwe said he decided to walk for his late wife and raised R40 000.00 for the Cancer Association of South Africa (Cansa).

Col Van der Merwe (58 years old) started his 1100 km walk to Cape Town to raise funds for the Bloemfontein Cancer Association. In memory of her, he decided to raise R100 000.00 for the Bloemfontein Cancer association. I no longer walking for Johlene now. I am aiming to raise R40 000.00 we raised is a lot”. He said the journey had made him realise the power of social networking.

He said that “she was diagnosed with cancer in 1984. It started as breast cancer but ended up spreading all over her body. I became so affected by her condition... my life was literally put on hold as I had to take care of her regularly”.

Col Van der Merwe said that after she died, he decided to walk for her. “That was how this journey started, but it is no longer walking for Johlene now. I am aiming to raise R100 000.00 for the Bloemfontein Cancer Association. I want to raise cancer awareness”.

The Dep Prov Comm of Human Resources, Maj Gen Mzwandile Mzemane, addressed the audience at the Cape Town Dog Unit and said that he supported Col Van der Merwe’s efforts wholeheartedly.

They worked together at the Bloemfontein K9 Unit at a stage in their SAPS careers. In hot, rainy, cold and humid weather conditions, they covered an average of 37 km per day and even reached 42 km one day.

The walkers arrived at the Cape Town Dog Unit and were warmly welcomed by a huge contingent of police members, supporters and the pleasant presence of horses and sniffer dogs. Col Van der Merwe said he decided to walk for his late wife Johlene and the Bloemfontein Cancer Association, after she died from cancer on 11 August 2015.

He said that “I became so affected by her condition... my life was literally put on hold as I had to take care of her regularly”.

Col Van der Merwe commented that although the journey was exhausting, it was worth doing it. He said that “this is an achievement on its own...people across the country are now aware of the disease. Not to mention those we met along the way...they were hooting, chatting to us and offering accommodation and much-needed donations. This R40 000.00 we raised is a lot”. He said the journey had made him realise the power of social networking.
The South African Police Service (SAPS) request urgent assistance from members of the public in tracing the following alleged perpetrators wanted in connection with various criminal offences committed countrywide.

**WANTED PERSONS**

**WANTED FOR MURDER AND HIJACKING**
**UNKNOWN**
Investigating Officer: Const L Sithole
013 947 5442
072 862 7799

**WANTED FOR MURDER**
**ROBERT KOLOBE MOLOTO**
Investigating Officer: Lt Col FC Steyn
011 309 6113
062 554 2825

**WANTED FOR ROBBERY**
**ERIC SAMSON MASHEGO MAHASHE**
Investigating Officer: WO C Mdluli
013 723 0331
073 251 1134

**WANTED FOR RAPE**
**PATRICK MNDAWE**
Investigating Officer: WO S Malapane
013 934 4130
082 318 9620

**WANTED FOR THEFT**
**ALBERTS KIMBERLEY**
Investigating Officer: Const SK Ngoveni
011 365 5700
073 401 5726

**WANTED FOR MURDER AND HIJACKING**
**UNKNOWNS**
Investigating Officer: Const L Sithole
013 947 5442
072 862 7799

**WANTED FOR MURDER**
**ROBERT KOLOBE MOLOTO**
Investigating Officer: Lt Col FC Steyn
011 309 6113
062 554 2825

**WANTED FOR ARMED ROBBERY**
**ERIC SAMSON MASHEGO MAHASHE**
Investigating Officer: WO C Mdluli
013 723 0331
073 251 1134

**WANTED FOR RAPE**
**THOKOZANE MASHEGO**
Investigating Officer: Sgt NP Mlewa
013 759 1000
082 219 7085

**WANTED FOR THEFT**
**ELMARIE SCHEEPERS**
Investigating Officer: WO PB Koen
017 819 2321
078 547 9375

**WANTED FOR MURDER**
**ALBION DUMISANI TIMANE**
Investigating Officer: WO S Malapane
013 934 4130
076 666 0444

**WANTED FOR ROBBERY**
**MPHO MASEMOLA**
Investigating Officer: Sgt SJ Ndala
013 947 5475
072 291 2175

**WANTED FOR RAPE**
**PATRICK MNDAWE**
Investigating Officer: WO S Malapane
013 934 4130
082 318 9620

**WANTED FOR THEFT**
**ALBERTS KIMBERLEY**
Investigating Officer: Const SK Ngoveni
011 365 5700
073 401 5726

**WANTED FOR MURDER**
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Investigating Officer: Sgt NP Mlewa
013 759 1000
082 219 7085

**WANTED FOR THEFT**
**ELMARIE SCHEEPERS**
Investigating Officer: WO PB Koen
017 819 2321
078 547 9375

**SAPS CRIME STOP**
08600 10111
OR SMS INFORMATION TO CRIME LINE ON 32211
(YOU MAY REMAIN ANONYMOUS)