

CRIME

Family demands justice for teen's death during sleepover

MANDILAKHE TSHWETE
mandilakhe.tshwete@inl.co.za

POLICE have yet to arrest anyone in connection with the death of a Khayelitsha teenager allegedly assaulted by her friend's mother during what was supposed to be a sleepover.

Zukhanye Nkabeni, 13, was attacked last Friday night in Harare. She was later rushed to Khayelitsha District Hospital, where she died shortly after midnight on Saturday.

Detailing the events leading to her granddaughter's death, Portia Nkabeni, said yesterday: "My daughter, Unathi, called me and said she was at Zukhanye's friend's place. She said she was not in good condition, she was sitting on a couch and she had no energy. She even thought she was sleeping, and woke her up and she was unable to walk. The friend's mother told Unathi that they assaulted Zukhanye because she was trying to break into their home."

The family was also told that Zukhanye had taken a cocktail of pills.



ZUKHANYE Nkabeni, 13, was allegedly assaulted by her friend's mother during a sleepover in Khayelitsha.

"There was no water in the room, but they said she took pills. Unathi got an e-hailing vehicle after she started relieving herself, and then when she asked Zukhanye if she was okay, she answered yes. My granddaughter's forehead was swollen from the beating with

the broomstick. Unathi went to the police station first so the police could take the statement from Zukhanye but they insisted that she must first go and get the J88 form filled and then return to the hospital, but she didn't make it out," the grandmother said.

She said the doctors later found traces of high blood pressure medication, antiretrovirals, and depression pills in Zukhanye's system.

"I don't know how my grandchild could have looked around the house for the pills, when they beat her for trying to get inside," Portia said.

She visited the suspect's home the next day seeking answers.

"The woman told me about the burglary. I couldn't see anything that was broken. I don't understand how three old women could hit a young child like that. While they were trying to tell their version of the story, the daughter disputed that and said they were at home and heard Zukhanye trying to come inside, but they didn't want to open, and then thereafter she was

assaulted." Despite the family's claims, police confirmed no arrests have been made. Police spokesperson Captain FC van Wyk said Lingeletu West police registered an inquest case in Bhubhoi Street, Ilitha Park, in the early hours of 27 September 2025.

"Reports of assault were not mentioned. A post-mortem will be conducted to determine the cause of death," he said.

Women and children's rights organisation Ilitha Labantu condemned the teenager's killing. Spokesperson Siyabulela Monakali said: "Reports indicate that Zukhanye was visiting a friend when the friend's mother, together with two other women, launched a violent attack on her, beating her on the head with planks. The assault left her with severe head injuries, and despite being rushed to hospital, she was pronounced dead just two hours later. Before her passing, she was able to provide a statement about the events that led to her death."

Monakali said the case highlights

how children are often harmed by those they trust.

"It is shocking and unacceptable that no arrests have been made. Justice delayed is justice denied. The perpetrators must be arrested immediately and prosecuted to the full extent of the law. Anything less will send a dangerous message that violence against children can be carried out with impunity."

He added: "Zukhanye's death is not only a devastating loss to her family but a collective wound to our society. Her story must serve as a rallying call to confront the scourge of violence against children and to ensure that homes and communities become places of safety rather than sites of harm."

Ilitha Labantu extended its condolences to the family and urged swift police action. "Her memory must not fade into another statistic. It must be a call to build a society where no child suffers violence or abuse."

The family has appealed to anyone willing to assist with burial costs to contact 082 883 4845.



THE driver accused the officer of assaulting him.

NATION

Viral driver charged with assault

KIM SWARTZ
kim.swartz@inl.co.za

A SUSPECTED drunk driver who went viral on social media for resisting arrest and racially taunting a traffic officer has been charged with assault.

The driver is seen in the widely-shared video telling the traffic officer not to touch him after the officer instructed him to turn around to make an arrest.

According to officials, the man was stopped after being seen driving recklessly on the N1 outbound onto the Durban Road bridge.

After he is pulled over by the traffic cop, the man, who was later charged with driving under the influence, instead gets into an argument with the

officer before getting physical.

As the officer calls for back up, the alleged drunk driver shouts at the officer saying "hy's f*cken swart man" (he is f**n black man") and "give my keys" before assaulting the officer.

The driver goes on to accuse the officer of assaulting him and calls him a p**s.

Traffic Services spokesperson Kevin Jacobs reported that one of its officers observed a Honda FRV vehicle that was driving in a reckless manner on the N1 outbound onto the Durban Road bridge.

Jacobs said: "The officer stopped the driver and interviewed him, but the driver became aggressive and failed to comply with the officer's instructions.

"SAPS and Law Enforcement officers arrived to provide assistance. The driver was arrested for driving under the influence of alcohol, reckless and negligent driving and assault."

The driver was detained at Bellville police station.

Police spokesperson Captain FC van Wyk confirmed the charges of reckless and negligent driving, drunken driving, and assault. The 50-year-old man was released on Tuesday on a warning to appear in court on 15 October. Safety and Security boss JP Smith condemned the incident.

Smith said: "Attacks on our staff have become far too commonplace, and the perpetrators ought to be ashamed of themselves. Our staff work incredibly hard, and under very trying circumstances, to



THE officer took the driver's keys away after he appeared to be driving under the influence.



THE driver refused to turn around for the officer to arrest him.

ensure law and order prevail, and to protect communities.

"For them to be disrespected and targeted in this manner is completely unacceptable.

"We hope that the suspect is prosecuted to the fullest extent of the law, to help send the message that such actions will not be tolerated."

NATION

Court comes to rescue of widow defrauded in property transfer

ZELDA VENTER
zelda.venter@inl.co.za

THE courts have the power to cancel the transfer of a property in cases where an agreement and subsequent transfer were obtained through fraudulent means, a recent judgment has confirmed. The case involved a woman who was defrauded into thinking she was signing documents to obtain a loan to build a flat at the house she had inherited from her late husband, only to discover that she signed "an agreement of purchase and sale".

The court at the time cancelled the transfer of the property into the name of the new buyer, but the latter now approached the Gauteng High Court, Pretoria, to appeal the judgment issued in favour of the elderly Annette Venter.

In the opening to the judgment, Judge Rochelle Francis-Subbiah, on behalf of a full bench (three judges) noted that the appeal concerns a "fraudulent scheme" perpetrated by the Reverse Mortgage Company (Pty) Ltd (RMC) and its associates upon Venter.

Venter, now in her 70s, battled for several years to get the house back after she was forced to move by the then liquidators of one of the companies involved in the transaction.

She explained that after the death of her husband, she was looking for money to build a flat in order to gen-

erate income but she was turned down by banks. At the time, she had estimated the cost of building at about R100 000. She read an advertisement in a newspaper by RMC, offering loans to homeowners for improvements, university and school fees. The loans were to be backed by a reverse mortgage bond. The only conditions, Venter said, were that the homeowner must die "sooner than later" and they must have equity in their property. A mortgage according to her would be registered over the property to secure the homeowner's indebtedness to the financial institution. The amount outstanding on the bond would be paid by the estate upon the passing of the homeowner.

RMC officials came to evaluate her home and she completed documents for the R100 000 loan. It was explained to her that RMC does not pay the amount upfront but in the form of a "pension" payable monthly. Later, when the horse had long bolted, she learnt that the modus operandi entailed, amongst others, that she was selling her home to a shelf company. Prior to this she was required to sign documents relating to the "loan" which actually stated "agreement of purchase and sale". It was found the eviction order was rightly set aside to restore her possession to the property. The appeal by the new owner was subsequently dismissed.

NATION

Dealership to refund R150 000 for defective Toyota Fortuner

STAFF REPORTER

A CAPE Town-based car dealership will refund a customer R150 000 for a Toyota Fortuner that developed defects on the day it was purchased.

Shortly after being returned to the consumer following repairs, the same defects persisted, the National Consumer Commission (NCC) said.

The Competition Tribunal in a statement this week confirmed a settlement made between the NCC and TM Cars (PTY) Ltd, thereby making it an order of the Tribunal.

"The NCC investigated the consumer's complaint, which revealed that on May 22, 2022, the consumer purchased a 2013 3.0 D-40 Toyota Fortuner and paid R225 000 to the supplier.

"On the same day, the vehicle developed certain defects and was returned to the supplier for repairs.

"However, shortly after being returned to the consumer, the same defects persisted. This contravened section 55(2)(a) -(c) read with section 56(3)(b) of the Consumer Protection Act (CPA)," the NCC said.

The supplier agreed to refund the consumer R150 000.

The NCC also welcomed the latest decision by the Tribunal against Kia East Rand (PTY) Ltd.

The NCC's investigation revealed that on September 9, 2022, the consumer paid just over R245 000 for a used 2015 Audi A3 vehicle from Kia East Rand (PTY) Ltd.

On October 19, 2022, the vehicle displayed defects.

"The consumer informed the supplier that the vehicle was overheating and a 'Low Engine Pressure' warning had illuminated on the instrument cluster. The vehicle was collected from the consumer to repair the water pump. However, the defects were not fully resolved as further inspection revealed that the cylinder head gasket had blown," the NCC said.

The Tribunal found that the supplier contravened 56(3) of the CPA.

According to the Tribunal, the overheating of the vehicle and the blowing up of the cylinder head gasket within six months of purchase rendered the vehicle less suitable for the purpose for which it was generally intended.

The Tribunal further stated that the provisions of section 56(3) oblige a supplier who repairs defective goods to either replace the goods or refund the purchase price.

Kia East Rand was ordered to refund the consumer the vehicle's purchase price.

The supplier was further ordered to pay an administrative penalty of R50 000. The NCC's Acting Commissioner, Hardin Rathisus, said: "The NCC welcomes the two rulings from the (Tribunal), as both send a clear message to suppliers that consumer rights must be protected. The NCC believes that the Tribunal's decisions will discourage other suppliers from participating in illegal practices."



NATION

Crime intelligence officer convicted for obstructing justice in ANC councillor murder case

NOMONDE ZONDI
nomonde.zondi@inl.co.za

CRIME intelligence police officer, Thulani Obed Thango acted with "direct intent" to obstruct the arrest of a former ANC councillor by hiding him for hours on December 21, 2018.

eThekweni former councillor, Mthokozisi Nojiyeza, was wanted by the members of the National Political Task team for the murder of Mlazi councillor Sibusiso Maphumulo on December 21. Nojiyeza is also an accused in the R320 million Durban Solid Waste tender fraud case against former mayor of eThekweni, Zandile Gumede.

Magistrate Jackie Jonk found Thango to have collaborated with Nojiyeza's lawyer, Lunga Peter (who died during the trial), to prevent Nojiyeza's apprehension. Nojiyeza had sought legal assistance on Zandile Gumede's advice because he was wanted.

On December 21, Nojiyeza was picked up from his Umlazi home by his metro police bodyguards, constables Ayanda Gumede and Javin Mgwaba.

They drove him to a restaurant on Victoria Embankment for a meeting with Thango and another individual. After this meeting, Nojiyeza joined Thango in a silver-grey Toyota Etios, with his bodyguards following, to consult with Peter on Churchill Road, Morningside.

Constable Gumede noted that the Etios had blue lights, was driving fast, and was skipping traffic lights.

Constable Gumede testified that Nojiyeza then instructed him and Constable Mgwaba to go to Inanda, stating he would call them when he was finished with a lawyer's meeting. After about an hour and a half, Nojiyeza called the metro police officers and told them to wait for him at the City Hall.

They waited for approximately two hours, but Nojiyeza did not arrive. He then called them again, instructing them to go to his home in Umlazi due to picketing there. Gumede reported this to his supervisor, who advised them to go to Umlazi but let the local police handle the situation. Constable Gumede explained: "On our way to Mlazi, Nojiyeza called and said we must no longer go there but go to the Durban Central police station, where we would meet with the two gentlemen that he was with in the morning."

On their arrival at the Durban Central police station, the Etios was already parked. Constable Gumede stated that Thango asked him to move an Audi TT, which was parked in the station's parking lot, and that the key would be inside the vehicle.

Gumede noticed that the hat Nojiyeza had been wearing that morning was on the backseat of the Etios, but Nojiyeza was not present. As Gumede approached the station's parking lot, task team members approached him and inquired about his presence. After he explained, they immediately went to the Audi, opened the passenger door, found Nojiyeza inside, and arrested him. Sergeant Sizwe Sokhela from the political task team testified that Peter had misled them, as he had arranged to meet at Durban Central for Nojiyeza's handover, but was alone.

Peter had informed them that Nojiyeza would be dropped off by the mayor's convoy, and they waited for a long time for him to arrive. After the arrest of his client, Peter fled the scene. Sergeant Sokhela also testified that "the door of the Audi was slightly open and Nojiyeza was nearly dehydrated from sweating so much."

Jonk found the state witnesses credible and said the State, led by prosecutor Nkululeko Msiya, proved the case beyond a reasonable doubt. She rejected Thango's version of events as improbable. She concluded that: "The accused had no lawful reason to hide Nojiyeza and to try and stop his arrest, and therefore his conduct was unlawful."

The court determined that Thango's actions, including dropping constable Gumede 17 meters from the parking lot to evade CCTV detection, constituted a deliberate attempt to defeat justice.

"The murder case against Nojiyeza was later struck off the court roll. Someone else was subsequently tried, convicted, and sentenced for the councillor's murder, meaning Nojiyeza was not ultimately prosecuted for the original murder charge," Jonk said.



Notice of Annual General Meeting (AGM)

The Kalk Bay StJames SRA NPC (KBSJSRA) will be hosting an AGM. All stakeholders are invited to a review of the past financial year's activities and planning for 2026/27.

Date: 27th October 2025
Time: 18h00
Venue: Kalk Bay Community Centre, 27 Main Road Kalk Bay

Resolutions presented at the meeting can only be voted on by bona fide members of the KBSJSRA. This membership is available free of charge to all owners of property within the KBSJSRA footprint who are liable for the additional rate (additional rate payers), but they must be registered before 20th October 2025.

To register as a member or access further information and documentation go to www.kalkbaystjamesra.org or call 079 609 1172