



To: All Editors of Media Houses and Journalists

MEDIA RELEASE

National Teachers' Union (Natu) is calling on the Provincial Police Commissioner in KwaZulu-Natal, Lieutenant General Mmamonye Ngobeni to establish a special Investigating Unit to probe death of school principals.

Villa Maria Principal in Pietemaritzburg, Nokuthula Mangwanyana, was found in her car with a wound to her head. Her possessions including a cellphone were not taken this week. Natu Deputy President and spokesperson, Allen Thompson said, this incident shows that the motive was not robbery.

Thompson said, as Natu they are shocked because Mangwanyana was one of their members and she died tragically during woman's month.

"We want the police to prioritise murder cases pertaining to principals, teachers or any person who holds a high position in the department of Education. Principals are not safe, they are threatened every day by people who coerce them on when are they retiring or planning to leave their positions. When a senior person like a principal dies we want this team to dig deep, find perpetrators and must face the law." Thompson said.

He said two of their principals have been killed in less than a week.

"Last week Mbilane High Principal in Ulundi was found dead in his house. He had a bullet wound to his head. Nothing was taken and that tells you again that the motive was not robbery," he said.

He added that in 2007, HlokoHloko Primary principal and the chairperson of the school governing body were sentenced to two life terms in jail respectively for the murder of Philile Mthenjana and Phindile Ntuli, who were Natu members and teaching in the school.

"The two were abducted, shot execution style in the bushes where their decomposed bodies were later discovered. That why we are saying as Natu that when a principal,

teacher or a high profile person in the department is murdered, police should not focus only on the people who are close to the deceased but should look at other factors as well, including within the school."

For more information please contact NATU Spokesperson Mr Allen Thompson on 073 607 8141 [Facebook@Natu](#) Twitter: Natu_1918 Website: Natu.org.za