

NATION

Philippi crime spree ends with life sentence for Gwazekhaya

CHEVON BOOYSEN
chevon.booyesen@inl.co.za

CONVICTED of 21 crimes, Siphenkosi Gwazekhaya, 27, will serve life behind bars for traumatising the community of Philippi through his criminal actions. Judge Nonthuthezlo Ralarala handed down sentence in the Western Cape High Court yesterday saying Gwazekhaya's crime spree had deeply affected those who he targeted.

Gwazekhaya faced multiple charges including murder, attempted murder, kidnapping, robbery with aggravating circumstances, possession of firearms and ammunition and various contraventions of the Firearms Control Act. Reflecting on victim impact statements heard in closing arguments, Judge Ralarala said the actions of Gwazekhaya, also known as Bhoyoyo, resulted in victims living in fear in their community and they were violated in their homes through his brazen criminal acts.

The court heard that the lives of families who were victims of house-breaking and robbery with aggravating circumstances, were "transformed forever, for the worse", and victims had to move from the area. An attempted murder victim continues to suffer from discomfort in his leg due to a gunshot wound.

The judge added that his continued acts of violence, often committed in broad daylight and with a total disregard for the lives of the deceased and attempted murder victims, was evident of the prevalence of violence across the country.

The murder committed was when a taxi owner's son was kidnapped and then taken to his father's house so Gwazekhaya could steal a legally-owned firearm.

A struggle ensued and the taxi owner was shot dead in his home. According to court details, the deceased

was shot six times - three of the bullet wounds were to his head.

"The seriousness of these crimes can't be emphasised enough. The manner in which the robberies and housebreaking happened is very concerning. There was a thought process and planning that went into it as the same modus operandi was used.

"You shamelessly traumatised the community. You committed these crimes in their homes - which are their sanctuaries. Through the victim impact statements we heard the voices of the victims. There was no form of remorse shown throughout proceedings. Even after conviction, you insist on your innocence," said Judge Ralarala.

Two victims affected by the crimes of Gwazekhaya attended the proceedings yesterday morning. Sisters, Nomnikelo and Anelitha Mbombo, welcomed the life sentence handed down to the man who broke into their home.

"We are feeling so grateful that the judge made the right decision. We believe justice has been served and it's what we wanted," they said.

National Prosecuting Authority (NPA) spokesperson, Eric Ntabazalila, highlighted that the crime spree occurred in the Philippi area from 2017 until 2020.

"The accused and other unknown co-perpetrators robbed legal owners of their firearms. The *modus operandi* were to approach the houses when children were alone at home, break into the houses and assault and threaten the minors to gain entry to safes and rob the firearms and ammunition held.

"The accused and unknown group approached a group of City of Cape officials who during the Covid period was repairing the water connection in the Philippi area and robbed them of all their belongings and shot one official. The victim was left with a lifelong disability and these co-workers are traumatised to this day," said Ntabazalila.



SEA Point High School matric pupils were among more than 900 000 National Senior Certificate (NSC) candidates nationwide writing their exam this year, marking the highest number of learners to sit for the NSC since its inception in 1996. Minister of Basic Education Siviwe Gwarube has expressed confidence in the department's readiness, assuring that measures were in place to ensure a fair and accessible examination process. | ARMAND HOUGH Independent Newspapers

NATION

Cops reveal how they caught 7 people including teen for Philippi massacre

STAFF REPORTER

A 16-year-old is among the seven suspects that have been arrested in connection with the murder of seven men in Philippi nearly a week ago.

In what police described as a decisive blow to violent crime, detectives attached to the Provincial Serious and Violent Crimes Unit, with the support of Crime Intelligence, arrested the suspects aged between 16 and 22 on Wednesday night and early on Thursday morning in Philippi East.

Police spokesperson Andre Traut said the arrests mark a significant breakthrough in the ongoing effort by police to stamp out violent and organised crime across the province. He said the suspects were traced and arrested during a series of well-coordinated operations that followed days of intensive investigation and intelligence-driven efforts.

Police provincial commissioner

Thembisile Patekile hailed the swift and professional actions of both the detectives and Crime Intelligence, describing the arrests as a clear message to those who perpetrate violence.

"We will not tolerate ruthless acts of violence that destroy lives and destabilise our communities. The men and women of the South African Police Service - supported by our intelligence capability - will continue to hunt down those who commit such barbaric crimes. There will be no hiding place for criminals in this province," said Patekile.

Western Cape police top brass reaffirmed its zero-tolerance approach to violent crime and assured communities that the SAPS will continue to pursue every lead until all those responsible are brought to justice.

Among the seven slain men was 28-year-old Maphelo Msuthu, who, according to his family, will be buried in the Eastern Cape on November 1.

His family previously told the Cape Times that Msuthu was selling insurance in malls around Cape Town with three other young men who are from the same village in the Eastern Cape.

"They were moving around, going to places selling insurance in different malls. He was only there for three weeks. He stayed in Khayelitsha before he moved to Philippi," said his uncle Mzo Msuthu.

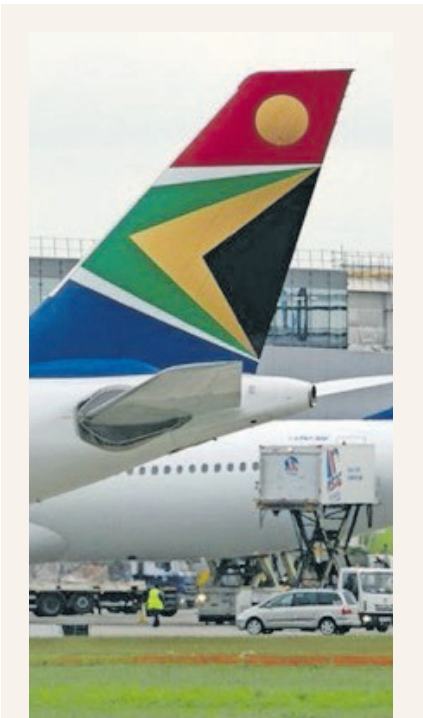
Police Oversight and Community Safety MEC Anroux Marais commended members of the SAPS Provincial Serious and Violent Crimes Unit and Crime Intelligence for tracing and arresting the suspects.

"I want to extend my congratulations to the members for their exceptional work in this case. Their relentless pursuit of justice and their actions to swiftly track down and arrest the suspects demonstrates the deep commitment of many SAPS members."

"Now that these suspects are in custody, I urge the investigative team to build a watertight case that will stand up in court and lead to successful convictions. This will send a strong and unequivocal message that lawlessness will not be tolerated. Those who believe they can act with impunity must know that they will be tracked down and face the full might of the law," Marais added.



THE killers of the seven men shot dead in Philippi tried to burn the bodies of the victims. | MANDILAKHE TSHWETE



AN INVESTIGATION into a serious incident aboard a South African Airways Airbus 330-300 reveals that a co-pilot's decision to ignore guidelines led to injuries among cabin crew during turbulence. | IOL

NATION

Investigation reveals co-pilot's error during South African Airways turbulence incident

SE-ANNE RALL
se-anne.rall@inl.co.za

AN INVESTIGATION into an incident aboard a South African Airways Airbus 330-300 has revealed how a co-pilot ignored guidelines.

In October last year, four cabin crew members were injured when the plane flew into turbulence mid-air during a flight from Cape Town to Johannesburg.

According to reports, one crew member was seriously injured after being flung against the ceiling.

A report by the South African Civil Aviation Authority has shown that the Airbus began shaking while cruising at 41 000 feet.

The co-pilot, according to the report, then tried to manually stabilise an oversped instead of leaving the autopilot engaged.

This caused the aircraft to oscillate in pitch.

The co-pilot told the inquiry that she was concerned that if the speed brakes were used, it would worsen the situation.

However, a computer simulation conducted by Airbus showed that if the autopilot setting remained engaged and the speed brakes used, the plane would have landed smoothly and within safety limits.

Despite the chaos, none of the 211 passengers were hurt.

INVITATION TO REGISTER ON THE DATABASE FOR THE DONATION OF ASSETS

The Department of Land Reform and Rural Development (DLRRD) invites all eligible Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs) and Public Entities operating within the Republic of South Africa to register on its Departmental Database for the Donation of Redundant and Obsolete Assets.

This initiative forms part of the department's commitment to promoting inclusive development, supporting community-based initiatives, and ensuring responsible and transparent asset disposal in line with the Public Finance Management Act (PFMA), 1999 (Act No. 1 of 1999), Treasury Regulations, and relevant government prescripts.

Categories of assets for donation may include:

- Office furniture and equipment;
- Computers and IT-related accessories; and
- Other surplus items deemed fit for donation.

Eligibility criteria:

- Must be a registered NGO or a legally constituted public entity;
- Must provide valid documentation, including NPO registration (where applicable), and proof of physical address; and
- Must demonstrate capacity to utilise the donated assets effectively for public benefit.

How to register:

Interested organisations are requested to obtain and complete the Asset Donation Registration Form, which is available from the department's office. Completed forms must be submitted with the required supporting documents to:

The Asset Disposal Unit
Department of Land Reform and Rural Development
600 Lilian Ngoyi
Email: Marvel.Luula@dlrrd.gov.za
Tel: 012 312 8446

Please note: Registration does not guarantee receipt of assets. Donations will be considered based on availability and alignment with departmental objectives.

List of contact persons in provincial offices:

Province	Name	Tel No.	Email Address
Gauteng	Kubashnee Naidoo	012 337 3636	Kubashnee.aidoo@dlrrd.gov.za
Mpumalanga	Damien Rudolph	013 754 8012	Damien.rudolph@dlrrd.gov.za
Eastern Cape	Thanduxolo Magaqa	043 701 8181	Thanduxolo.magaqa@dlrrd.gov.za
Free State	Montlali Motshabi	051 400 4200	Montlali.motshabi@dlrrd.gov.za
Kwazulu-Natal	Keith Bailey	033 2649 525	Keith.bailey@dlrrd.gov.za
Limpopo	Akhona Qokolwani	015 230 5001	Akhona.qokolwani@dlrrd.gov.za
Northern Cape	Desmond Martin	053 830 4025	Desmond.martin@dlrrd.gov.za
Western Cape	Boniswa Mkhize	021 409 0593	Boniswa.mkhize@dlrrd.gov.za

land reform & rural development
Department: Land Reform and Rural Development
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

LITTLE MOWBRAY AND ROSEBANK IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT NPC (AGM)
NPC 2016/311084/08
2 Raleigh Road, Little Mowbray 7700
info@lmird.capetown www.lmird.capetown

NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The Little Mowbray and Rosebank Improvement District NPC (LMIRD) will be hosting an AGM. All stakeholders are invited to a review of the past financial year's activities and to approve the extension of the CID term.

Date: Thursday 20th November 2025
Time: 19h00 (registration for meeting), 19h30 (meeting commence)
Venue: Mossop Hall, cnr Cheltenham and Roseberry Roads, Little Mowbray.

Resolutions presented at the meeting can only be voted on by bona fide members of the LMIRD. This membership is available free of charge to all owners of property within the LMIRD footprint who are liable for the additional rate (additional rate payers), but they must be registered before 13th November 2025.

The application documents for the extension of the CID term are available for inspection at the management body's offices, the office of the Executive Director and are published on the management body's Website.

Any additional rate payer opposed to the application to extend the CID term may submit a written objection within 30 days of the conclusion of the AGM whereafter Council may approve the application if written objections have not been received from at least 40% of additional rate payers.

Members of the local community (including property owners, residents, tenants, body corporates, civic organisations and non-governmental, private sector or labour organisations) may submit written comments on the new five-year business plan within 30 days of the conclusion of the AGM.

To register as a member or access further information and documentation go to: www.lmird.capetown. To submit a written objection or comment e-mail info@lmird.capetown or call 08610 56743

GROOTE SCHUUR
Community Improvement District

GSCID
Improving our neighbourhoods together

Notice of Annual General Meeting (AGM)

The Groote Schuur Community Improvement District NPC (GSCID) 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: 2025-11-20
Time: 16:30
Venue: Belmont Conference Centre

Resolutions presented at the meeting can only be voted on by bona fide members of the GSCID. This membership is available free of charge to all owners of property within the GSCID footprint who are liable for the additional rate (additional rate payers), but they must be registered before 10-11-2025.

To register as a member or access further information and documentation go to www.gscid.co.za (CID web page) or call 021 685 8185

BERGRIVIER MUNICIPALITY

NOTICE CALLING FOR OBJECTION TO SUPPLEMENTARY VALUATION ROLL

NOTICE is hereby given in terms of Section 49(1)(a)(i) of the Local Government: Municipal Property Rates Act, Act 6 of 2004 that the **Supplementary Valuation Roll 5for the financial year 2025/2026** lies open for public inspection at the various municipal offices and libraries within the municipal boundaries and municipal website(www.bergmun.org.za) from **23 October 2025 to 24 November 2025**.

NOTICE is further given in terms of Section 49(1)(a)(ii) of the Act, read with Section 78(2), that any owner of property or other person who so desires, may lodge an objection with the Municipal Manager in respect of any matter reflected in, or omitted from the valuation roll within the above-mentioned period.

Attention is specifically drawn to the fact that in terms of Section 50(2) of the Act, an objection must be in relation to a specific individual property and not against the valuation roll as such.

The form for the lodging of an objection is obtainable at the various municipal offices and libraries within the municipal boundaries and on the municipal website.

The original completed form must be returned to the Municipal Manager, Bergrivier Municipality, P O Box 60, Piketberg, 7320. **No faxes or emails are accepted.**

For enquiries, please contact Mrs U Julius & Mrs PS Afrika at tel no: (022) 913 6000.

This notice was published for the first time on 23 October 2025.

MUNICIPAL OFFICES
13 CHURCH STREET
P.O. BOX 60
PIKETBERG, 7320
MN233/2025

ADV HANLIE LINDE
MUNICIPAL MANAGER

24 October 2025

VISIT: IOL.CO.ZA/CAPETIMES