

TO ALL MEDIA
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Statement on the hijacking and burning of ambulance

KZN Health MEC, Dr Sibongiseni Dhlomo has strongly condemned the hijacking and burning of an Ambulance at UMgungundlovu District last night.

‘This is a very crucial time for our medical emergency vehicles and staff members. Our personnel are not on holiday but serving the needs of the people in distress; they deserve to be protected by all,’ pleads Dhlomo.

In this incident, at around 22h00, the UMgungundlovu Communication Room received a call for a maternity case in Empolweni area. The ambulance was dispatched at 22H03. Upon arrival at Empolweni Location D15; the Ambulance was hijacked at gunpoint by 2 males.

The robbers took 2 cellphones from one of the crew members and thereafter told them to run. The Ambulance was then burned with all its rescue and resuscitation equipment.

‘Whilst we are relieved that our crew members are safe and have been referred to Employee Assistance Programme for counselling; we nonetheless decry the destruction of this much valuable and needed medical emergency vehicle ’

Since the case has been reported to Crammond SAPS; we hope that law enforcement agencies will do everything in their power to apprehend these treasonous elements, ‘says Dhlomo