

KZN Health MEC again reassures families on post-mortems

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KZN Health MEC, Dr Sibongiseni Dhlomo is again at Port Shepstone Mortuary performing more autopsies to meet the weekend deadline.

Yesterday he directed that seventeen [17] bodies that were at Park Rynie Mortuary be more to the Port Shepstone facility where he participated in the post-mortem of eight of those.

MEC Dhlomo says this morning whilst preparing to go Port Shepstone again, he learnt that six [6] staff members out of seven, he was working with yesterday had also fallen sick. He says this does not pose a crises at all as he had already made arrangements with the South African Police Services General to lent the Department SAPS members who were previously performing this task, saying:

'I profusely thank the Premier who allowed me to be excused from other Government tasks to attend to this matter. My view is that families who loose members who had fallen sick find it easy to accept the situation but for those who suddenly learn that a member has been shot; stabbed or involved in an accident, it becomes an unbearable grief for them. It thus adds double frustration if they are uncertain whether to proceed with funeral arrangements or not because of labour related issues with our workers. My involvement is aimed at removing that uncertainty. Any other work related issue is a matter to be attended to by managers tasked to manage different programs and components of our Department. Empathy and compassion is the key to dealing with family members who are grieving.'

MEC Dhlomo again reiterated that by Friday morning all bodies would be available for families to collect.