

Another huge loss for KZN health as professional nurse is murdered by husband (MEC Dhlomo calls upon all men to refrain from using violence to resolve domestic disputes)

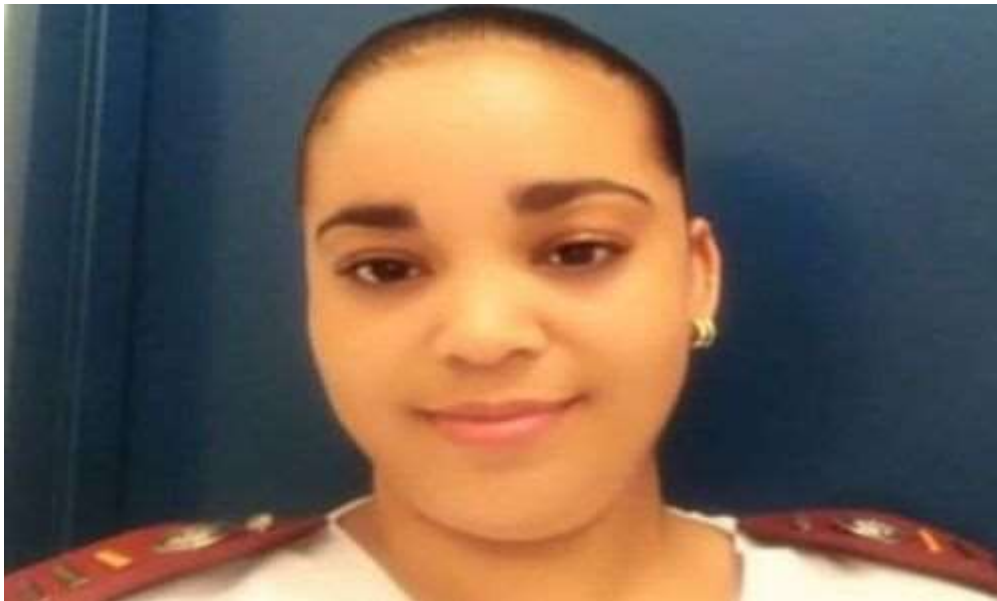
11 March 2019

KwaZulu-Natal Health MEC Dr Sibongiseni Dhlomo has sent his deepest condolences to the family and colleagues of professional nurse Sister Barbabara Emmalda Haines (34yrs) who was fatally shot, allegedly by her husband at their place of residence yesterday evening.

According to a private security company, several calls were received from residents in the Phoenix, reporting that shots had been fired on the property.

Upon arrival, the nurse's lifeless body was found lying in a pool of blood in the kitchen. It is alleged that the couple were involved in a domestic dispute when her husband drew his firearm and shot her.

He allegedly then turned the gun on himself and fatally shot himself, in the presence of their two children who were not harmed during the incident.



Reacting to the incident, MEC said: *"It is with great sadness and shock to report the untimely death of Sister Haines, one of our professional nurses at Mahatma Gandhi hospital."*

Born at Ixopo, Mrs Haines started working at Mahatma Gandhi Memorial Hospital in 2010 as a professional nurse in the Mental Health Care Unit. She had a diploma in Nursing (General, Psychiatric and Community) and Midwifery, which she obtained in 2009. She attended Edendale Nursing Campus from 2005 to 2009.

"We urge once more that there should be a better way to handle domestic dispute without causing harm and eventually killing a partner. We are really saddened by this great loss of such a dedicated hard working nurse in one of our own facilities and we pray and ask for the family to be supported through prayers," said the MEC.

MEC Dhlomo, who is the chairperson of the KZN Men's Forum, urged men to protect their families and to handle disagreements in a proper manner.

"We are calling upon men to restrain themselves from solving domestic disputes in this way. Our condolences go to colleagues who have worked with sister Haines at Mahatma Gandhi Hospital, the leadership of that hospital and the community that she served so well. May her soul rest in peace."

The motive behind the shooting is still unknown. Sister Haines left behind her six year-old daughter and two year-old son. The funeral arrangements are yet to be finalised.