

Alex Police Commander Suspended



Pic: Ramatamo Wa Matamong

Provincial Commissioner, Lieutenant General Mothibi

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FOLLOWING the fatal shooting at the Alex police that claim the lives of four people, among them the longest serving police force member, Major Thomas Moetlo, Provincial Commissioner, Lieutenant General Mothibi said pre-liminary investigations resolved that the Station Commander of Alex Police Station, Brigadier Ngcobo and two other police officers be suspended with immediate effect.

Delivering his strongly worded statement at the memorial service of Moetlo, Mothibi said the merciless killing of Moetlo cannot be explained and they are highly convinced that the police management could have done something to prevent the horrible incident, which has shocked not only Gauteng, but the whole of South Africa.

"There were some management deficiencies and as a result of that, we've suspended the station commander, the relieve commander and the Warrant Officer who gave the fire arm to the constable," Mothibi explained.

Constable Ronnie Masie's reckless behaviour had earlier forfeited his service pistol, but on the day of the shooting, it was unintentionally returned, prompting the rampage shooting. Masie was later shot dead by the Tactical Response Team when they tried to arrest him.

"We have appointed Colonel Zondi who is in charge of the detective operations in Alexandra as the acting station commander while Lieutenant Colonel Tau, who is based in Bramley will be in charge of Visible Policing part. We want to finalise the investigations as soon as possible as we don't want people to be on suspension long."

"Thereafter we want to bring stability back to the station because this has shocked members of SAPS and the priority now will be to support the station," Mothibi said.

Whether suspended members if found guilty will be dismissed or expelled from the police force, Mothibi could not confirm speculations, but rather said investigations are on-going and the suspension of any members is not taken lightly at SAPS.

Linda Stars rewarded with new kit

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FORMER Alex FM presenter, Murendeni Ndanduleni has on the eve of June 16 donated a new soccer jersey to a struggling soccer team in Alex called Linda Stars. He said there was no way to commemorate June 16 without taking care of the youth.

After hearing the plight of the team on Alex FM, Ndanduleni, who now works for the Free State Provincial government, said he didn't hesitate to assist since he knows that through soccer and education, they can change the face of their families.

"I felt this is how I should celebrate youth month, with the people in need. I wish these boys can now realise their full potential in life. They can achieve amazing things in life if they stay away from the streets," he said.

The owner, Agnes Mithi said the team comprises of the under- 13's and under-15's and they have been struggling with one kit for a very long time. Every time after one division played, she would have to wash the jersey to get it ready for another division.

"I'm very grateful with this kit. This encourages me to continue with what I'm doing to keep kids from bad things that destroy their lives," she said.



Pic: Ramatamo Wa Matamong

DREAM TEAM: Front from left to right: Pumelele Tshewu, Thapelo Malebati, Kwanele Mqaqa, Thabang Mogweng, Glen Nkuna, Sphelele Msimango, Nyakallo Moeti. Back from left to right: Agnes Mithi, Mabhuti Makinita, Keamogetswe Moloto, Msizi Ntuli, Thabiso Shibambo, Sihle Ndaba, Kgothatso Maluleka, Ndumiso Nyoka and Murendeni Ndanduleni.

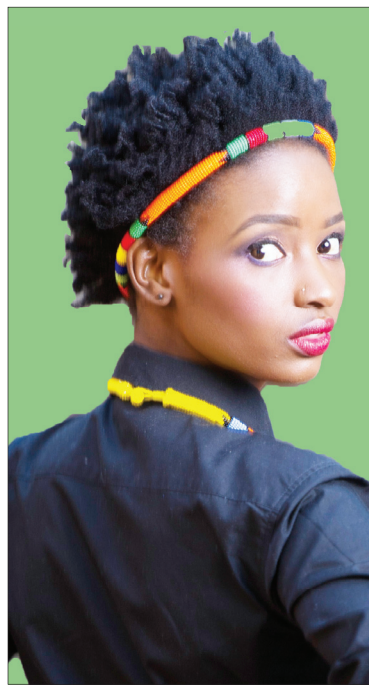
Dream girl ready to face the world

WHAT started as a wild dream has finally become a reality for Joburg based model and Wits Student, Audrey Chabalala who will be heading to New York and Orlando, Florida in the USA at the beginning of June. Audrey will be representing South Africa at the Applause Rising Talent Showcase (ARTS); an international modelling convention. At the ARTS there are managers, producers, casting directors and agents scouting for talented artist and models from all around the world. Industry professionals that will be present include Tyler Perry Studios, Click Model Management, Trump Model Management, Disney, GLA Agency Los Angeles, Icon Studios, and Nate Butler the A&R from Americas Got Talent and X-Factor, New York Model Management, Sony and the list goes on.

The opportunity that being a self-funded trip, presented Audrey with the challenge of raising nearly R70 000 to solidify her spot at the competition and she has finally achieved that goal. With clear determination, the 24-year-old, together with her family and friends came up with innovative ways to tell her story with the prime goal of raising the funds at hand.

Hosting fashion shows with local young designers, photographic exhibitions featuring Buhle Mda of the award-winning A Capella sensation, from The Soil. As well as selling earrings and bracelets that she makes herself, Audrey was able to achieve her goal while capturing the hearts of South Africans at the same time. These South Africans include, attorney Denise Sibuyi who contacted Audrey after reading an article about her mission and made his contribution.

All the money raised will cover a participation fee for Applause Rising Talent Showcase (ARTS),



Audrey Chabalala

2 boot camps, professional photo shoot and marketing material. This is only the beginning for Audrey, whose focus and ambition is a good example to all that have dreams they would like to turn into a reality.

More about Audrey:

Audrey Chabalala is a 24-year-old from Alexandra, who began modelling in 2012. In 2013 she was a quarter-finalist in the Face Of Africa competition and has modelled for the likes of global fashion broadcaster, Fashion TV and international musician, Erykah Badu's hats and accessories label. She has also worked with some of the best photographers in South Africa including LionWolf Photography, Bright Liquid Light Photography and Lee Photography.

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