



EASTERN CAPE PROVINCIAL LEGISLATURE

MEMBER OF PROVINCIAL LEGISLATURE
Office of the Democratic Alliance
Hon. Yusuf Cassim, MPL



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02nd January 2025

Hon. X. Nqatha
MEC: Community Safety
Eastern Cape Provincial Legislature
Bhisho

Dear Hon. Nqatha

RE: Urgent request for reward for the successful conviction in the murder of Constable Callan Andrews

I hereby write this letter to express my sincere concern and outrage following the senseless killing of Constable Callan Andrews on Tuesday, 31st December 2024, in Helenvale, Gqeberha.

A mere two-months into his promising career with the South African Police Service, twenty-nine-year-old Constable Andrews attached to the Gelvandale Police Station, was tragically gunned down in the very same community he had sworn to serve and protect.

Crime in the Northern Areas of Gqeberha has been spiralling out of control for years, creating an abnormal situation that has claimed countless innocent lives. We have long maintained that the crime and rampant gang violence in the Northern Areas, particularly Helenvale, is an abnormal crisis. We have desperately been pleading for urgent intervention in the Northern Areas, more so, after the horrific and unjust murders of three-year-old Emilio Hutchinson, his grandmother, and a family friend in April 2024. Residents live in constant fear as criminals and gangsters run rampant without fear of reprisal.

In September 2024, the Ministry of Police signed an official cooperation agreement with the Eastern Cape Government and the Nelson Mandela Bay Municipality; an agreement presented as a means to enhance collaboration and coordination among all stakeholders to address safety and security concerns in the region. However, the police in the Nelson Mandela Bay are severely understaffed and under-resourced, and they are losing the battle against crime, not just in the Northern Areas, but across the entire city.

Following the signing of the official cooperation agreement, I hereby request feedback on whether this agreement has resulted in any meaningful impact on the high crime rate in the Nelson Mandela Bay, as well as its effectiveness in addressing the ongoing gang violence in the Northern Areas.

Furthermore, given the circumstances surrounding the murder of Constable Andrews, I firmly believe that offering a reward would serve a critical role in bringing justice. Therefore, I hereby request that a sizeable reward be allocated for the successful identification and conviction of those responsible for this heinous crime. We cannot allow the tragic and

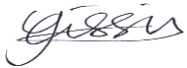
brutal killing of a police officer with a bright future ahead of him to become a mere statistic.

I humbly request that you consider the above with the urgency that it deserves.

I look forward to your favourable response in this regard.

Thank you.

Kind Regards



Hon. Yusuf Cassim, MPL

Chief Whip of the Official Opposition - Eastern Cape Provincial Legislature

Member of the Portfolio Committee on Community Safety