

# Women in blue rock!

**Rustenburg** – On Friday, 25 August, the fierce female officers of Zeerust and Rustenburg's Clusters yielded great successes during Operation Basadi.

As part of Women's Month, Operation Basadi was conducted by the Police in partnership with municipal and provincial traffic departments as well as the department of home affairs.

In Rustenburg, Flying Squad members supported by their Airwing nabbed three suspects aged between 39 and 42 at approximately 11h20.

A high-speed chase ensued through town with the SAPS members hot on the heels of a hijacked Toyota Hilux bakkie. Through rapid coordinated efforts between the Police, in the air and on the ground, three suspects were cornered in Krematart avenue in Geelhoutpark. "They fled from the hijacked bakkie into the adjacent field, but were soon arrested by the Police," sergeant Ofentse Mokgadi, police spokesperson, said.

The trio was arrested on four counts, including the possession of a suspected stolen and hijacked motor vehicle, the illegal possession of a firearm, the illegal possession of ammunition and the possession of house breaking implements. The vehicle was hijacked in Pretoria West and was traced by a tracking company.

The suspects appeared before the Rustenburg Magistrates' Court on Monday, 28 August.

"Well done SAPS! I am so proud to be a police officer! This was the wrong day to execute a hijacking... Not with the SAPS chopper to give air support!" captain Elsabé Augoustides, police spokesperson, said.

"The women's successes became even more evident through the apprehension of five suspects for trio and other serious crimes as well as the seizing of stolen items," lieutenant colonel Amanda Funani, police spokesperson, said.

In another crime-preventing incident, a 28-year old suspect was arrested in a roadblock along the N4 after being found in the possession of a firearm and dagga. He also appeared before the Rustenburg Magistrates' Court on 28 August.

In Zeerust on the same day, Operation Basadi's constant vigilance led to a 28-year old suspect being arrested in a roadblock in Swartruggens after being found in the possession of dagga. The suspect appeared before the Swartruggens Magistrates' Court on Monday, 28 August. Operation Basadi led to the issuing of 30 traffic fines. The North West provincial commissioner, lieutenant general Baile Motswenyane commended members, particularly women law enforcers who participated in the operations. She said that the arrests confirm what was indicated at the beginning of the month: that Women's Month will be commemorated through crime prevention operations to bring down the levels of crime.



The Police's Flying Squad and Airwing members; from left: constable Modisagae, captain Scheepers, sergeant Venter, captain Botes and sergeant Mathabé.



Three suspects were cornered in Krematart avenue in Geelhoutpark.



A high-speed chase ended in the arrest of the suspects.



The trio was arrested on four counts and appeared before the Rustenburg Magistrates' Court this week.



Housebreaking items were confiscated.

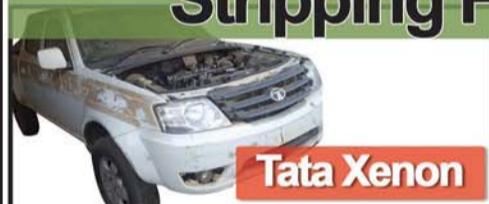


An illegal firearm and ammunition was confiscated.

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