

# REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON PETITIONS TO THE FREE STATE LEGISLATURE REGARDING THE PETITION OF HENNEMAN FARMERS UNION VERSUS SOUTH AFRICAN POLICE SERVICES AND DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY SAFETY, ROADS AND TRANSPORT

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# REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON PETITIONS TO THE FREE STATE LEGISLATURE REGARDING THE PETITION OF HENNEMAN FARMERS UNION VERSUS SOUTH AFRICAN POLICE SERVICES AND DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY SAFETY, ROADS AND TRANSPORT

**DRAFT** 

# REPORT PROFILE

**Title of Report:** Report of the Committee on Petitions to the Free State Legislature regarding the petition of Hennenman Farmers Union versus South African Police Services and Department of Community Safety, Roads and Transport

Responsible Committee: Committee on Petitions.

Report Compiled by and on: Nomsa Qayiso on 02 May 2025

Report checked and edited by: Ciska Williams, Manager Petitions Unit

Report for tabling in the Legislature on:

# TO THE HONOURABLE SPEAKER AND HONOURABLE MEMBERS OF THE FREE STATE LEGISLATURE

The Committee on Petitions herewith tables its report regarding the petition of Hennenman Farmers Union versus South African Police Services and Department of Community Safety, Roads and Transport. The Committee could not have presented this report without valuable contribution by the Petitioner, officials of the South African Police Services and Department of Community Safety, Roads and Transport, Hon. Members of the Committee on Petitions, as well as support services rendered by the Support staff from the Free State Legislature.

Mokoena, J

**CHAIRPERSON** 

#### **MEMBERS**:

Ndungane, N

Khoabane, M.

Cloete, A

Msimanga, M

Masoeu, D

Meeko, 7

Garekoe, N

Sigwebela, Z

Foko, M

Mkhabela, M

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#### 1. INTRODUCTION

Committee on Petitions considered the petition of Henneman Farmers Union versus South African Police Services and Department of Community Safety, Roads and Transport as per the provisions of Standing Rules and Orders of the Free State Legislature and Free State Petitions Act.

#### 2. MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE

The Committee comprises the following members:

Cloete, A (Member)

Foko, M (Member)

Garekoe, N (Member)

Khoabane, M (Member)

Masoeu, D (Member)

Meeko, T (Member)

Mokoena, J (Chairperson)

Msimanga, M (Member)

Ndungane, N (Member)

Sigwebela, Z (Member)

#### 3. PROCEDURE OF THE COMMITTEE

On 5<sup>th</sup> March 2025, the Committee on Petitions convened to consider the Petition of Henneman Farmers Union versus South African Police Services and Department of Community Safety, Roads and Transport

#### 4. CONSIDERATION OF THE PETITION

**4.1.** Henneman Farmers Union versus South African Police Services and Department of Community Safety, Roads and Transport

# 4.1.1. Background – Hennenman Farmers Union

This petition is about Henneman Farmers Union complaint about the lack of rural safety vehicles for Hennenman and Ventersburg SAPS has led to high levels of livestock theft and compromising the safety of the communities in these areas. The SAPS was engaged as well but the issues remain unsolved. And they suspect that those behind the high levels of livestock theft are not just individuals criminals but an organized crime syndicate, the closure of the S1282 route, the closure of this route came about to create a biosecurity zone outside of Hennenman to curb the outbreak of foot and mouth disease in the province. However, the closure has had had negative impact on the economy of the area as there was no movement of goods and people. The department was engaged to resolve the matter to no avail.

# 4.1.2. Relief sought by the Petitioner

The petitioners request an immediate communication from the Department of Community Safety, Roads and Transport regarding the closure of S1282 and the creation of the biosecurity zone. They also request that Hennenman and Ventersburg SAPS be provided with rural safety vehicles. Finally, they request a commitment from the Department to ongoing dialogue and collaboration with the community.

### 4.1.3. Findings

SAPS informed the Committee that a vehicle has been allocated to Hennenman Farmers Union. The vehicle was marked with Rural Vehicle Safety with registration BSR079B. The Hennenman Farmers Union were satisfied with the vehicle

Regarding the closure of S1282, The Hennenman Farmers Union reported that the matter has since been attended to. Mr. Hannes Maree from the Department of Community, Roads and Transport made contact with the Hennenman Farmers Union to address the issue and they regard the engagement, and the resolution reached as satisfactory.

#### 5. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 1. SAPS and Hennenman Farmers Union were advised to engage and agree on systems and both parties must apprise the Committee with the progress report,
- 2. That the report of Hennenman Farmers Union be adopted by the House as the petitioner is satisfied with the outcome.

