



BOTSWANA

# POLICE

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05 Commander-in-Chief  
Bestows Ms Marathe with the  
Commissioner's Badges

08 50<sup>th</sup> Annual Senior Officers  
Conference

14 Traffic Commanders  
Strategise



A re chencheng!



# MANDATE

The mandate of BPS is to ensure the safety and security of the people of Botswana. The organisation is established by an Act of Parliament under Section 6 of the Police Act, Cap. 21:01. The Act outlines the mandate of the BPS as follows,

***“The Service shall be employed throughout Botswana to protect life and property, prevent and detect crime, repress internal disturbances, maintain security and public tranquillity, apprehend offenders, bring offenders to justice, duly enforce all written laws with which it is directly charged, and generally maintain the peace.”***

## Vision

**‘A law enforcement Agency of Repute’**

- The BPS will be an upright organisation that upholds its mandate according to the dictates of the Country's Statutes and all international policing conventions.

## Mission

- The BPS exists for residents of Botswana and to provide to them a service that is consistent with International Policing Standards. The Mission understands that a Total Policing Service must be offered with the consent of the Customer and with the Customer.

**‘To provide a Professional Policing Service, in partnership with the Community’**

- **Professional Policing:**
  - Expert Service that is consistent with international policing standards.
- **Partnership with the community:**
  - Policing by consent, for them by them

## CORE VALUES



### **BOTHO**

Courteous  
Responsive  
Respectful



### **EXCELLENCE**

Accountable  
Knowledgeable  
Responsive  
Accurate  
Customer Focused



### **INTEGRITY**

Ethical  
Transparent  
Confidential  
Honest  
Impartial



### **TEAMWORK**

Espirit De Corps  
Pull together  
Collective Responsibility



# TABLE OF CONTENTS

05

Commander-in-Chief Bestows Ms  
Marathe with the Commissioner's  
Badges

08

50<sup>th</sup> Annual Senior Officers  
Conference

14

Traffic Commanders Strategise

18

Mapoka and Kaudwane Villages  
Receive New Police Posts



# Editor's Desk



Assistant Superintendent Mompoloki Mophato

## Marathe: A Woman of Firsts

**H**istory beckoned for Botswana Police Service (BPS) on the 28<sup>th</sup> February 2024 when the Office of The President released a Press Release for the appointments, promotions and transfers of Senior Public Officers. In the communication, His Excellency, Dr Mokgweetsi E.K. Masisi, President of the Republic of Botswana had appointed a woman officer to the top echelon of the Botswana Police Service (BPS). Her name is Ms Dinah Marathe. The first Motswana woman to ascend to the rank of Commissioner of Police in the history of the organisation and the country.

During its 140-year existence, BPS has always been led by men. This includes even when the post of Commissioner was localised, starting with Mr Simon Hirshfeldt who was appointed on 1<sup>st</sup> September 1971, followed by Mr Norman Moleboge, then Mr Edwin Batshu who was followed by Mr Thebeyame Tsimako and Mr Keabetswe Makgophe who came after the former. The appointment of Ms Dinah Marathe is history in the making.

She is indeed a woman of firsts as she is the first woman to rise to the rank of Deputy Commissioner of Police back in 2017, first female officer to be appointed Commissioner of Botswana Prison Service in 2021 and now she has been promoted to the rank of Commissioner of BPS.

We at the Police Magazine congratulate and salute you on your promotion Madam. The BPS family welcomes you with expansive arms. This is the organisation where you cut your teeth in policing and has witnessed your progress through perseverance, due diligence, devotion, and enthusiasm. We are thrilled by your appointment and look forward to sharing your vision, as you present a wealth of experience and wisdom that will undoubtedly propel this organisation to rocketing heights.

Your apt words during your recent interactions with police officers filled us with optimism, as you pointed out the involvement of significant stakeholders in policing matters as critical to your leadership. You also vowed to manage the organisation firmly, honestly, and prudently, with justice at the foundation of your actions. In here you have laid bare your vision for all members of BPS to align with and embrace.

The BPS family welcomes you back Madam and we promise to support and work with you to make this Organisation one of the best in the world. I believe with your able leadership you will steer this ship to sail.

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His Excellency, Dr. Mokgweetsi Eric Keabetswe Masisi bestowing the Commissioner of Police badges on Commissioner Dinah Marathe at the Office of the President

# Commander-in-Chief Bestows Ms Marathe With The Commissioner's Badges

Story by S/I Kefilwe Bafana

Photos by S/I Kabelo Barogeng

In the world over, women continue to assume managerial positions on a daily basis in various organisations. In recent years, Botswana Police Service (BPS) has transformed from a male dominated organisation to one where women are active in all aspects.

Since formation of BPS and its localisation it has always been led by men with the first being Mr Simon Hirschfeldt who was appointed Commissioner of Police on the 1<sup>st</sup> September 1971 followed

by Mr Norman Seduma Moleboge, Mr Edwin Jenamiso Batshu, Mr Thebeyame Tsimako and Mr Keabetswe Makgophe in that order.

On 1<sup>st</sup> March 2024 the shackles were finally broken as the glass ceiling smashed to see Ms Dinah Marathe take over the reins of BPS as the first woman Commissioner of Police. The momentous appointment of Ms Marathe was history in the making to go down the country's and the world annals.

Ms Marathe was appointed the Commissioner of Police by His Excellency Dr Mokgweetsi Eric Keabetswe Masisi, the President of the Republic of Botswana. He subsequently handed her the Sword of Authority and adorned her with the badges of rank on the 8<sup>th</sup> March 2024

On her arrival at Police Headquarters for her welcome ceremony, Ms Marathe found a quarter guard awaiting her. A quarter guard is a small detachment of

*'She emphasised community engagement so as to build trust, thus improving police/ community relations.'*



eight – twelve police officers commanded by a sergeant used as a ceremonial guard in honour of a VIP, in this instance the Commissioner. The atmosphere was charged with excitement as the PHQ staff were happy to welcome one of their own back.

Taking to the podium, Ms Marathe expressed gratitude to His Excellency the President for trusting her to lead the BPS. She conveyed her appreciation for the opportunity and acknowledged the magnitude of the responsibility bestowed upon her. She made a commitment to fulfil her duties as Commissioner of Police with dedication, integrity, excellence and professionalism.

The Commissioner rallied all members of BPS to support her, emphasising the importance of upholding the BPS's Mission and Vision. She called for cooperation and teamwork among members of the organisation to achieve common objectives and advocated for continuous professional development to stay abreast with the ever evolving policing practices.

She emphasised community engagement so as to build trust thus improving police/ community relations in the process calling for ethical conduct and accountability in all interactions with stakeholder.

The Commissioner stated that her intention was to lead BPS with a diverse perspective, where varied experiences in the workforce are incorporated.

In his welcome remarks, the Director of Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA), Mr Phemelo Ramakorwane expressed confidence in the incumbent's leadership abilities. He highlighted that Ms Marathe was bringing in a wealth of experience which she built over the years as a senior police officer and Commissioner of Botswana Prison Service. In conclusion, the then Acting Commissioner Mr Ramakorwane acknowledged the tremendous support he received from members of the BPS during his tenure as Acting Commissioner of Police.

For his part, the Deputy Commissioner Operations, Mr Solomon Mantswe observed that the appointment of the first woman Commissioner was indeed a historic moment for BPS worth recording.



**His Excellency, Dr. Mokgweetsi Eric Keabetswe Masisi handing over the Sword of Authority to Ms Dinah Marathe at the Office of the President**

He expressed his appreciation saying that he has previously worked under her command in the past and that he could attest to her sound leadership, professionalism and unwavering commitment. "Her leadership has always been characterised by integrity, foresight and a genuine concern for the well-being of both officers and the organisation's customers," he said.

The Deputy Commissioner said Ms Marathe's visionary leadership and

accomplishments serve as an inspiration to all police officers, particularly to aspiring female officers. He said her appointment does not only break stereotypes but also sets a shining example of what can be achieved through hard work and perseverance.

He assured the Commissioner of the full support and dedication by all members of the BPS as the organisation embarked on a new chapter under her leadership.

*"Her leadership has always been characterised by integrity, foresight and a genuine concern for the well-being of both officers and the organisation's customers," he said.*



**Hon. Thomas Kagiso Mmusi, Minister of Defence and Security (left) and Ms Pearl Ramokoka, Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Defence and Security, at the event**



## High Ranking Government Officials witnessed the occasion at Office of The President



Ms Emmah Peloetletse, Permanent Secretary to the President (Right) and Ms Matshidiso Bokole, Deputy Permanent Secretary to the President



The newly appointed Commissioner of Police, Ms Dinah Marathe (Left) and newly appointed Commissioner of Prison, Mr Anthony Mokento (Center) and Mr Solomon S. Mantswe, Deputy Commissioner of Police, Operations



Mr Solomon S. Mantswe  
Deputy Commissioner, Operations



Assistant Commissioner of Police Oabitsa D. Kgetse, Deputy Director, Departmental Management Services (Left) and Assistant Superintendent Kabo Khuduga of Botswana Prison Service in attendance

## Ms Dinah Marathe being welcomed by BPS Senior Management Team at Police Headquarters



Guard of honor mounted by members of Botswana Police Service ushering in the newly appointed Commissioner of Police



Commissioner Dinah Marathe greeting members of the BPS Senior Management Team



Commissioner of Police greeting members of the BPS Senior Management Team



Seated: Ms Dinah Marathe, Commissioner of Police (2nd Left), Mr Phemelo Ramakorwane, Director DEA (2nd Right), Mr Busang C. Lesola, Deputy Commissioner of Police, Crime Investigations (Left) and Mr Solomon Mantswe, Deputy Commissioner of Police, Operations (Right) and other members of the Senior Management Team



# 50<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL SENIOR OFFICERS CONFERENCE

Story by Insp Obusitse Puleng

Photos by Insp Oteng Ramotho



**His Excellency Dr. Mokgweetsi Eric Keabetswe Masisi,  
President of the Republic of Botswana**

**B**otswana Police Service (BPS) top brass gathered at the Special Support Group (SSG) in Gaborone from 19<sup>th</sup> – 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2024 for the 50<sup>th</sup> Senior Officers Annual Conference. The purpose of the Conference was to introspect and strategise on best ways in enforcing the law and combating crime in the country. As it is the norm, it was attended by officers of the rank of Senior Superintendent to Commissioner.

The first day of the Conference was dedicated to consultations with internal and external stakeholders who gave presentations on issues such as Financial Literacy, preparation for General Elections and Human Trafficking.

When giving a keynote address, His Excellency, Dr Mokgweetsi Eric Keabetswe Masisi, President of the Republic of

Botswana, who is also the Commander-In-Chief of the Armed Forces, thanked the police leadership for the sterling performance they continue to display in ensuring that the country and its people are protected and safe.

The President said the applaudable performance by members of BPS was shown by accolades they continue to receive from both the public and internationally. The President urged the Police leadership to continue improving on the splendid job.

His Excellency said faced with the ever changing crime trends, he trusted that the week long convention was a platform for coming up with effective initiatives to counteract emerging crime threats that the country is faced with. The Commander-In-Chief said although modern technology has made life easier for everyone to access



**Honourable Thomas Kagiso Mmusi  
Minister of Defence and Security**

whatever they want, criminals on the other hand use it to commit complex crimes.

“In a societal context characterised by a critical mass of people that are sufficiently knowledgeable and have reasonable access to the infrastructure of information and communication technologies, as well as data processing gadgets, the profession and practices of policing are fraught with the challenges of some individuals repurposing the use of such technologies to serve devious goals of criminality.”

The President pointed out that the conventional methods of policing are no longer relevant, hence the need to interrogate and formulate new strategies that would uphold public trust and confidence in the Police. He said there was need for development of the workforce and integration of new technologies such as the Artificial Intelligence (AI) into policing to enhance service delivery and be ahead of criminal syndicates.

His Excellency however emphasised that traditional methods such as partnership





**Seated Front Row:** His Excellency Dr. Mokgweetsi Eric Keabetswe Masisi (Center), Hon Thomas Kagiso Mmusi, Minister of Defence and Security (4<sup>th</sup> Left), the then Acting Commissioner of Police Phemelo Ramakorwane (4<sup>th</sup> Right), Mr Boyce Sebetela, Chief of Staff in the Office of The President (2<sup>nd</sup> left), Mr Kago Ramokate, Secretary for Safety and Security - Ministry of Defence and Security (1<sup>st</sup> Right), Pastor Enoch Gagobonale (Assemblies Of God) (1<sup>st</sup> Left) and other members of the Police Senior Management team.

between the police and members of the community remains important and therefore should be enriched through a collective approach towards effective and efficient ways of fighting crime.

Furthermore, the President assured the BPS leadership that the government will continue to provide necessary resources to BPS for effective law enforcement through employing more officers, construction of more facilities, information technology amongst others to bring services closer to the people.

President Masisi reminded delegates to always align their processes with the Government Reset Agenda priorities, especially Digitilisation, Value Chain Development and Mindset Change that were important drivers of the transformation

journey. His Excellency noted that a national transformation strategy to guide planning, policy formulation, programme and project delivery to achieve Vision 2036 had already been developed to be the guiding tool.

On other issues, His Excellency encouraged BPS to take advantage of available opportunities for secondment at international organisations such as INTERPOL, AFRIPOL, SARPCCO AND United Nations. He said this would help sell the organisation and country globally and allow officers to benchmark and learn new ideas from the international world.

On the upcoming General Elections, the President reminded the delegates that the whole nation depends on the latter to provide a free and fair Elections environment.

Giving a vote of thanks, the Minister of Defence and Security, Honourable Thomas Kagiso Mmusi appreciated the government's commitment to resourcing Botswana Police Service as this motivates the organisation to commit to deliver proficiently on its mandate.

Minister Mmusi said in 2023, City Policing Unit was launched to enhance police response to emergencies in Gaborone and Francistown. Honourable Mmusi said the organisation has since commenced digitalising some of its services to ease access by members of the public.

Honourable Mmusi added that in the quest of implementing the Mindset Change initiative, the Ministry has since launched its roadmap and it is in the process of cascading it to its departments.



Members of the Senior Management team in attendance during the Senior officers Deliberations



Story and photos by Cst Tshephang Boemo

**B**eyond the traditional role of maintaining law and order, Policing involves building positive relationships, fostering trust, and addressing the social needs of the community.

This approach recognises that effective policing goes beyond enforcement; it includes initiatives such as community outreach programmes and support for vulnerable populations. Botswana Police Service (BPS) continues to restore hope, security and a sense of belonging by building houses for the less privileged.

Early this year the community of Maunatlala gathered to witness an act of compassion and kindness as BPS donated a house to one of their own, Mr Kopano Lebang. Speaking at the handing over of the house the then Acting Commissioner of Police, Mr Solomon S. Mantswe, said the spirit of giving and caring for one another is embedded in the Setswana culture and tradition. He said these attributes have over the years contributed immensely to peace building, self-sustenance, and the socio-economic development of the nation.

Mr Mantswe noted that the programme aligns with the Vision 2036 Pillar No.2 on Human Social Development which dictates the need to improve community welfare and living conditions. He said providing shelter for the needy gives the beneficiary dignity and a sense of belonging in the community.

Acting Commissioner of Police thanked members of the community saying they were the pillars of strength in delivering police



Mr Solomon S. Mantswe, then Acting Commissioner of Police

## Restoration Hope Continues as BPS Delivers the 83<sup>rd</sup> House

mandate. He urged them to continue working with the police through cluster policing programmes and information sharing.

He reminded the community that the role of the police was multifaceted, encompassing a range of responsibilities aimed at public safety, maintaining order and upholding the rule of law within the society. In addition he assured them that BPS prioritises community engagement and collaborations to build

trust and address underlying issues that contribute to crime.

Giving the Project Overview, the Acting Divisional Commander North Central, Assistant Commissioner of Police, Goabaone Mmadintsi revealed that the house, consisting of a bedroom, sitting room, kitchen, bathroom, and toilet cost almost P92,000.00. She said the project was made possible by voluntary contributions from



Some of the attendants





Hon. Sethabelo Modukanele  
Assistant Minister of Local Government & Rural  
Development - MP Lerala/Maunatlala



Assistant Commissioner of Police, Goabaone Mmadintsi  
Acting Divisional Commander, North Central



Beneficiary, Mr Kopano Lebang

Maunatlala Police officers including those who are at Lerala, Seolwane, Maokatumo, Moremi, Lesenepole and Tamasane Police Posts. She commended the selfless support of stakeholders and individuals who made the project a success.

For his part, Mr Lebang thanked the police for their good heart and spirit of giving back to the community. He said this was not just a house but a blessing from God. He expressed his happiness to the fact that it was a fully furnished house.

Giving a vote of thanks, Assistant Minister of Local Government and Rural Development, who is also Member of Parliament for Lerala-Maunatlala, Hon Sethabelo Modukanele commended BPS for the gesture adding that it has brought joy to his village. He pleaded with Mr Lebang to take care of the house.



Event attendees

*"For his part, Mr Lebang thanked the Police for their good heart and spirit of giving back to the community. He said this was not just a house but a blessing from God."*





# Commissioner Marathe Interacts With Police Officers Across The Country

Story by Sgt Batshwanetse Keboiretsewe

Photos by Insp Edwin O. Ramotho and

Cst Gofaone A. Kobe

**T**he newly appointed Commissioner of Police, Ms Dinah Marathe engaged with police officers country wide to introduce herself as their new Commissioner and source ideas from them for the drawing of a Roadmap.

The Commissioner noted that the formulation of the Roadmap, intervention strategies and Botswana Police Service (BPS) overall existence must be anchored on the **Voice of the Customer**. She said as the policing landscape keeps on evolving, so is the voice of a customer, therefore, emphasising that it is essential for BPS to reset their agenda to meet those demands.

“Together, we need to assess our strategic direction and agility to what is core and relevant to contemporary policing. I trust that at the end of these meetings we would have immensely contributed to these consultative processes which will culminate into our shared Roadmap,” Commissioner said.

During the meetings the Commissioner called officers to be professional in awarding the nation quality service that borders on Botswana Police Service (BPS)



Ms Dinah Marathe  
Commissioner of Police

core values of Botho, Excellence, Integrity and Teamwork. She further implored attendants to be patriotic in discharging their duties as this would ensure a safer and secure Botswana.

“By taking oath, we counted ourselves ready and relevant to be of service to Batswana,” she said.

Ms Marathe urged participants to renew their commitment towards their work,



Special Support Group officers



*“The Commissioner noted that the formulation of the Roadmap, intervention strategies and Botswana Police Service (BPS) overall existence must be anchored on the Voice of the Customer.”*



Mr Solomon S. Mantswe  
Deputy Commissioner of Police, Operations

reminding them that it was that kind of attitude that continues to pay dividends, earning BPS the title of Best in Africa as well as in other international rankings.

“Our commitment should be steadfast and communicate with clarity that we understand the centrality of sustainable peace and security,” she said.

Furthermore, the Commissioner reiterated the main mandate of BPS which remains the same of enforcing all written laws with the ultimate objective of protecting life and property. She highlighted that to achieve this mandate the officers have to be innovative and ready to embrace a culture of implementing national, regional and international strategic instruments aimed at combating organised crime. Ms Marathe underscored the need for BPS to align to the Government’s Reset Agenda of Mindset Change by doing things differently.

“We must cultivate and embed mindsets that drive a culture of high-performance. We need to cultivate and embed universally accepted behaviours and norms that drive high performance,” she stated.

On the issue of teamwork, Ms Marathe said experience has shown that unison is the core to policing as solving a case

requires different expertise and joint efforts. In addition, she commended police officers for their spirit of team work which they continue to exhibit in the discharge of their duties.

“We always held hands and marched in unison and great stride, aware that ours is a service that can never be compromised as sometimes it means the difference between life and death,” she remarked.

The Commissioner also stressed the need for stakeholder engagement, highlighting that the organization has been successful in the past due to such collaborations. She said her leadership will embrace these partnerships to accommodate ideas and resources provided by various stakeholders including members of the public.

She also vowed to ensure that police services are digitalised to meet the needs of the modern day customer, for wider access and improved response time, stating that she was certain of BPS ability to perform in this regard.

Expressing her appreciation for the reception that has been accorded to her by the Police Senior Management Team on assuming the high chair, the Commissioner was convinced that the support will inspire her to provide the needed leadership to take BPS to greater heights. Over and above, Commissioner Marathe recognised the visionary

leadership of his predecessor who have sailed the BPS ship for the past eleven years.

In one of such meetings with formations of Police Headquarters in Gaborone, the Commissioner called on police officers to conduct themselves with integrity and in a manner that is representational of the BPS. Commissioner Marathe said even though Police Headquarters (PHQ) formations are office-based officers who provide resource support to operatives on the ground, they had a duty as police officers to contribute to the core mandate of BPS. She, therefore, urged attendants to go beyond their normal duties and become operational to augment police visibility.

Furthermore, she implored participants to provide adequate support to operatives to ensure that they remained motivated and inspired in providing quality service to BPS external customers.

Giving welcome remarks at one of the meetings, Mr Solomon S. Mantswe, Deputy Commissioner of Police, Operations urged police commanders and the general membership to support the Commissioner in her duty. Regarding the General Elections to be held later this year, He advised Police officers to provide a safe and fair environment during the election processes to ensure that peace and tranquility continue to prevail in the country.

The meetings were kick started in Gaborone with Branch Commanders, Divisional Commanders, Officer Commandings and Station Commanders from all over the country before it was rolled to the rest of the BPS community.



No.4 District personnel



# TRAFFIC COMMANDERS STRATEGISE



Mr Solomon S. Mantswe  
Deputy Commissioner of Police, Operations

Story by Cst Lethata Morogolwane and  
Cst Tshepang Boemo  
Photos by Cst Tshepang Boemo

In the chaos of our bustling cities and highways, it is easy to overlook the need for traffic management. Yet, it is precisely this attribute that allows us to navigate from point A to point B with relative ease and safety.

Picture this: a major event taking place in the city centre, flooding the streets with vehicles and pedestrians. Amidst this frenzy, it is the traffic cop who steps up to the plate. With a wave of their hand or a strategically placed cone, they orchestrate

the flow of traffic, ensuring that everyone reaches their destination safely.

It is against this background that there is need to capacitate traffic commanders on road policing and strengthen bonds with other traffic law enforcement stake holders.

This year, Botswana Police Service (BPS) held a Capacity Building Seminar for Traffic Commanders in Selibe Phikwe, its aim was to ensure alignment to the Branch's aspirations of creating a safe national road traffic environment. The seminar attracted Traffic Commanders across all police divisions under the theme 'Rethinking Road Policing Approaches.'

Giving his keynote address at the official opening of the event, Mr Solomon S. Mantswe, Deputy Commissioner of Police, Operations implored traffic cops to strategically deploy their resources with a



Traffic Commanders during the Conference





Senior Assistant Commissioner of Police, Pilane Sebigi  
Director, Traffic



Some of the Senior Officers who attended the Conference

view to reducing the number of road traffic accidents and fatalities.

He said road traffic offences such as drunken driving, failure to obey road signs and speeding continued to be the main causes of road accidents and fatalities. The Deputy Commissioner encouraged officers to work in synergy with stakeholders to deliver on the goals of the country's Road Safety Strategy.

Deputy Commissioner Mantswe said statistics revealed that people between 21 and 35 years were the most affected in casualties, a situation he described as most unfortunate and disturbing. "It is again not surprising as they also form a larger part of those responsible for inconsiderable driving practices compared to other age groups," Mr Mantswe noted.

He challenged police officers to come up with strategic ways of engaging the concerned group as they were the future

generation and major contributors to the economy of the country.

Deputy Commissioner also expressed concern about issues of public courtesy on the roads. He said some members of the public had lost respect for road traffic accident scenes, high security escorts, VVIP convoys and emergency vehicles. He observed that most drivers seemed to be oblivious of the responsibility to respect and give way to such formations. "When an accident occurs, members of the public flock to the scene, crowding out officers to a point of rendering them helpless."

He further noted that in some instances some members of the public have developed tendencies of entering crime scenes, taking photographs of victims and circulating such on social media. He called on police officers to invoke enabling statutes where breaches of public courtesy were observed to normalise the situation.

On the issue of general crime, Mr Mantswe said the police should remain committed to protecting life and property and to concentrate more on road policing initiatives which contributed towards keeping the country safe and secure. He highlighted that on many occasions, traffic officers have intercepted stolen goods in-transit, a gesture which he applauded.

Giving his welcome remarks, the Director of Traffic, Senior Assistant Commissioner of Police, Pilane Sebigi said the police recorded a total of 396 road accident fatalities in 2023 compared to 404 in the preceding year, representing a 2% reduction. He said even though these figures are in line with the sustained improvement in the national road safety indices in recent years, the number of lives lost annually on the country's roads was still unacceptably high.







# BPS Conducts Horse Training and



**Senior Assistant Commissioner of Police, Godfrey Phonchi**  
Director, Training

**Story by Cst Olorato Gadibolae and  
Cst Lorato Seakgano**  
**Photos by Sgt Onalenna Sanka and  
Cst Kagiso Ntwaagae**

**S**haring resources, ideas and expertise among law enforcement agencies is crucial for enhancing collaboration and efficiency in maintaining public safety.

The imperative is underscored in the Government's Reset Agenda, which mandates sharing of all government equipment to ensure that the goals of Vision 2036 are accomplished. In line with this, the

Botswana Police Service (BPS) had recently conducted a Horse Training and Equestrian Course attended by six members of BPS and six of Botswana Prison Service at the Police Horse Stables in Mahuhumetsa.

In opening the course, the Special Support Group Training Officer, Senior Superintendent Masego Mathitha, noted that this kind of training was the first of its kind.

She said law enforcement agencies in many countries, including Botswana, used horses for various purposes due to their agility and ability to navigate difficult terrains. Senior Superintendent Mathitha said horses were often used for patrolling in areas where vehicles are unable to access quickly, such as national parks and border areas.

She further said horses were valuable assets in search and rescue operations. "The Police may deploy mounted units to assist in searching for missing persons or individuals in distress, particularly in wilderness or rural environments."

Senior Superintendent Mathitha explained that equestrians (horse riders) must acquaint themselves with the proper care, feeding, and maintenance of horses to ensure their well-being and effectiveness in police operations.



**Colonel Mateunyane Mateunyane**  
Botswana Prisons Services - Director of Intelligence  
and Security



**Assistant Commissioner of Police, Dirang Ntibi**  
Deputy Commander, Special Support Group

Furthermore, the Training Officer said the Course will ensure that police visibility was enhanced in crime-prone areas, whilst guarding duties by Prisons would be improved. She was optimistic that the organisational relationship would continue to benefit the country. Ms Mathitha added that it was not the first time that BPS extended training expertise to their sister organisation. "In the past, we trained Prison officers on Field Craft and Tactics."

Participants were urged to maintain high levels of commitment, cooperation,



**Botswana Police Service trainees and their Instructors**



# Equestrian Course

perseverance and discipline during training. "Without these attributes, we cannot achieve our objectives."

Senior Superintendent Mathitha further emphasised the need for physical training, adding that equestrian requires a physically fit individual.

The Coordinator of Prison Police, Senior Superintendent Othusitse Seree of Botswana Prison Service, appreciated the long-standing relationship between the two organisations urging the trainees to work hard and always uphold the values that represented the two departments.

Upon completion, a graduation ceremony was officiated by the Director of Training, Senior Assistant Commissioner of Police Godfrey Phonchi who commended the graduates for their commitment and dedication to completing the training, stating that this was a demanding and strenuous exercise that could test one's endurance.

The Director noted that the inter-agency collaboration was vitally important as it closed law enforcement gaps by sharing resources, ideas, and expertise to meet the customers' expectations.

He highlighted that initiatives like Kgomokhumo would benefit immensely from the use of horses in investigations, trekking animals and navigating challenging terrains. Mr Phonchi urged the graduates to carry out their duties as horse riders effectively as this will go a long way in assisting both departments in providing quality service.

In his welcome remarks, Deputy Commander SSG, Assistant Commissioner of Police, Dirang Ntibi asserted that BPS also planned to breed their own horses as it would be cheaper than buying fully grown ones. He also stated that alongside the human training that occurred, they also trained five

more horses to add to their herd.

When giving the course overview, Superintendent Moreri Nyatsang said that he was positive that the intended objectives of both the Course and Training were delivered effectively and that the riders have proven to be competent. He affirmed that riders were eloquent in horse language, further, pointing out that the riders and horses could now communicate impressively.

Giving a vote of thanks, Colonel Mautenyane Mautenyane, Director of Intelligence and Security at Botswana Prison Service, commended the BPS for awarding them an opportunity to be part of the programme. He said the skills acquired by their officers will assist in tracking escapees in challenging landscapes, amongst others. Mr Mautenyane said he appreciated the graduates for their hard work, resilience, determination, and patience while working with the animals and being able to tame them successfully.

The Horse Training and Equestrian course is registered with the Botswana Qualifications Authority (BQA) and intended to equip participants with the Southern African Regional Police Chiefs Cooperation Organisation (SARPCCO) standardised skills and knowledge regarding horse handling, grooming, riding, and general care.



**Senior Superintendent Masego Mathitha**  
Training Officer, Special Support Group



**Senior Superintendent Othusitse Seree**  
Course Coordinator, Prison Services



**Superintendent Moreri Nyatsang**  
Course Instructor



**Botswana Prisons Services trainees and their Instructors**



# KAUDWANE AND MAPOKA VILLAGES GET NEW POLICE POSTS



Kaudwane Police Post



Hon. Thomas Kagiso Mmusi  
Minister of Defence and Security



Mr Solomon Mantswe  
Deputy Commissioner of Police - Operations



Hon. Friction Leuwe  
Member of Parliament - Takatokwane

Story by Insp Obusitse Puleng and  
Sgt Bantshwanetse Keboiretsewe  
Photos by Cst Kagiso Ntwaagae and  
Cst Tshepang Boemo

**M**inister of Defence and Security, Honourable Thomas Kagiso Mmusi said Government has prioritised the construction of Police Stations and employment of police personnel as well

as leverage on the use of technology to achieve high productivity in the workplace.

The Minister stated this during the official opening of Kaudwane and Mapoka Police Posts respectively during the months of December 2023 and March this year.

He noted that the development

would significantly improve Botswana Police Service (BPS) crime prevention strategy, response time and strengthen partnership between the police and communities in the fight against crime.

He said the construction of the two police posts was part of the 28 police stations which were earmarked for completion during the 2023/2024 financial year.



Kaudwane event attendees





Mapoka Police Post



Hon. Simon N. Moabi  
Member of Parliament - Tati West

Addressing residents of Kaudwane and Mapoka villages, Minister Mmusi said a decision to upgrade the current police posts design to a police station model was to enhance public security. The Minister revealed that some of the upcoming police posts projects upgraded to station model including Matsiloje, Marapong, Makaleng and Sebina. Residents of the two villages

were also informed that the current police posts carry the credence of a police station with the support resources and connectivity.

At Kaudwane, the then Acting Commissioner of Police, Phemelo Ramakorwane informed the residents that the police post was strategically positioned to service villages of Salajwe and Khudumelapye including Khutse Game Reserve.

For his part, Member of Parliament for Takatokwane, Honourable Friction Leuwe appreciated the development and urged the community to utilise and take care of the police post.

At Mapoka village, the Minister expressed concern on the escalation of cross border crime incidents. Minister Mmusi called on the Police and other stakeholders to intensify their crime prevention initiatives to improve public safety and security in the area.

Minister Mmusi told residents that peace and stability were crucial in attracting

foreign investors for the country to achieve high income economy by 2036. He appealed to residents to join hands with the police in preventing crime.

Giving an overview of Mapoka Police Post project, Mr Solomon S. Mantswe, Deputy Commissioner of Police Operations, said the construction of the Police Post commenced in April 2023 and was completed on 3rd November the same year.

He said the Post was built at a cost of around P982 000.00 and it consisted of offices, community Service Centre, consultation room, custody suite kitchenette and ablutions.

Deputy Commissioner Mantswe further revealed that Mapoka Police Post was the 33rd to be completed since 2015/2016 financial year. The Deputy Commissioner concluded by assuring the public that opening of a Police Post in the village would improve accessibility of police services as well as enhancing visibility and response time.



Mapoka event attendees





Senior Assistant Commissioner of Police, Katlholo  
Mosimanegape  
Director , Operations



Assistant Commissioner of Police, Goabaone Mmadintsi  
Acting Divisional Commander, North Central

# New Neutral Penalists Appointed for the Cluster Awards

Story by: S/I Kefilwe Bafana

Photos by: S/I Kabelo Barogeng

The organisation has demonstrated a steadfast commitment to enhancing stakeholder engagement as a cornerstone strategy in the fight against crime. Recognising the indispensable role of collaboration, the BPS has taken proactive steps to foster stronger partnerships with key stakeholders across the nation.

To appreciate community participation in crime prevention, BPS found it imperative to appreciate community efforts through the Annual National Cluster Policing Awards. The objective of the awards ceremony is mainly to recognise various community policing foot soldiers for their efforts in the fight against crime.

Recently BPS held a one-day training workshop whose aim was to capacitate and empower the newly appointed Community Policing Neutral Panelists. These are individuals selected from the community to participate in the

adjudication of community policing activities.

Delivering the keynote address at the workshop, the Director of Operations, Senior Assistant Commissioner of Police, Katlholo Mosimanegape said the training was vital for effective and efficient evaluation of Community Policing Cluster performances, an exercise that precedes the Annual Community Policing Cluster Awards. The Director said it was intended through training to equip all Neutral Panelists with the knowledge and skills required to evaluate cluster performance in preparation for the upcoming 12<sup>th</sup> Annual Cluster Policing Awards.

Senior Assistant Commissioner Mosimanegape said the cluster evaluation process acts as a feedback to community policing clusters on effectiveness of their strategies towards crime prevention in their respective areas. Director Operations noted that the performance assessment was an activity held periodically to

evaluate the effect of crime prevention initiatives within specific localities.

He encouraged the newly appointed adjudicators to execute their mandate diligently in a transparent manner to ensure the exercise delivers the desired results.

On other issues, Senior Assistant Commissioner Mosimanegape appreciated the contribution of all stakeholders involved in the fight against crime. The Director added that the reduction realised in certain offences was due to strong cooperation between the police and the community.

When welcoming participants at the workshop, the Acting Divisional Commander, North Central, Assistant Commissioner of Police, Goabamang Mmadintsi said the training will go a long way in strengthening the relationship between the Police and crime prevention practitioners. She further said it will





Event participants

promote a sense of togetherness and sharing of ideas on how to curb crime. The Assistant Commissioner concluded by urging participants to familiarise themselves with the evaluation criteria to be able to effectively assess and adjudicate performance of clusters in their respective areas.

For his part, Kgosi Prince Obuseng of Lecheng Village, who is also No. 2 District Cluster Chairperson, said he was concerned about the involvement of the youth in criminal activities. Kgosi Obuseng encouraged the youth to take part in crime prevention as they are the most affected group, both as victims and perpetrators of crime. He said their involvement in these initiatives is imperative as they can easily reach out to their peers in crime related issues at their various interactions.

He pleaded with parents to refrain from taking their children's side when they were wrong, and cooperate with the authorities to correct wrongs by their children.

The Police magazine caught up with one of the newly appointed Panelists Meshack Medupi, representing No.15 Policing District under Northern Division, who said he started partaking in crime prevention activities in his teens. Mr Medupi said he has been volunteering in various community policing activities and he believes his active participation eventually led to his appointment as a neutral panelist.

He pledged to empower clusters within his policing District as he realised that in the pastmost clusters were not so conversant with the evaluation criteria which led them to falling short of meeting the evaluation standards. Mr Medupi further said he was still a member of the community and he intended to continue participating in community policing activities. He said following the training, he believes he will be able to positively influence other members of the community and build strong crime prevention clusters.

Kgosi Prince Obuseng  
Lecheng Village

Some of the Panelists at the event



## VOICE OF THE FUTURE

*By Cst Tshepang Boemo*

I am a beacon of hope in the darkest of nights  
Bold but not brave enough  
A gem worth more than gold  
I am a being so hopeful of a better tomorrow  
I am a girl child

Glittering but my beam is shadowed  
Shadowed by abuse and the pain you cause me  
Neglected and abandoned often you shun me  
Throwing hurtful words at me you do  
With no regard for my tiny body  
You molest me and leave me scarred for life  
Forcing me to live in fear and a shadow of what could be a life worth lived  
I am a girl child

Like any other person  
I have a right to life, stop using me for rituals  
I have a right to education  
I am not a treasure to be sold for sex labour  
I am a girl with a heart so true and intents so pure  
A future so bright with a story untold  
I am so curious and full of wonder, still scratching and searching for who really

I am  
Please guide me to be  
Allow me to spread my wings and soar to my greatest potential  
I am a girl child

Stand my elders stand  
Stand against Child abuse  
With a courage so strong and shield us from harm  
With voices raised  
Declare that child abuse you cannot bear  
Fight to bring an end to this blight  
Unite to right the world, stand to right the wrong  
Let us be assured that in your hearts our safety is sown!



# Remembering Our Departed Heroes

Revelation 14:13

*And I heard a voice from heaven saying write this: Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord from now on. Blessed indeed, says the spirit, that they may rest from their labours, for their deeds follow them!"*



Constable Kaone Mathanjane  
Died: 18-Jan-24  
Last Station: CPS Gaborone



Sergeant Itumeleng Bayani  
Died: 27-Jan-24  
Last Station: Tshesebe Police



Constable Thato Marumoagae  
Died: 27-Jan-24  
Last Station: Francistown (SSG)



Sub Insp Mookami Mooketsi  
Died: 30-Jan-24  
Last Station: Botshabelo Police



Constable Malebogo Motlhaetsi  
Died: 12-Feb-24  
Last Station: SSKA Police



Constable Motswakgakala Mosipidi  
Died: 13-Feb-24  
Last Station: Woodhall Police



Constable Sedireng Motseokae  
Died: 26-Feb-24  
Last Station: SSG, Gaborone



Superintendent Balashiki Gwafila  
Died: 5-Mar-24  
Last Station: CRB Headquarters



Constable Medupe Ramalebo  
Died: 16-Mar-24  
Last Station: Kasane Airport Police



Senior Superintendent Motshabi Ranjo  
Died: 22-Mar-24  
Last Station: SSG, Gaborone



Sergeant Mpaphi Benjamin  
Died: 26-Mar-24  
Last Station: Palapye Police



Constable Leapeetswe Shanakane  
Died: 28-Mar-24  
Last Station: Kasane Police

May Their Souls  
Rest In Peace







A re chencheng!

**BOITSHWARO**

**DIKAKANYO**

**MAIKUTLO**

#BWmindsetchange