



BOTSWANA POLICE

MAGAZINE

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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 modern and proactive law enforcement agency of repute’

The vision aspires a Police service that utilizes advanced practices and technologies to effectively address community needs while maintaining a strong reputation for integrity and professionalism

MISSION

‘To deliver innovative and community-centered policing services for a safe and secure Botswana’

It emphasizes commitment to employing creative and effective policing strategies that prioritises collaboration with the community, fostering trust and engagements to enhance public safety and security throughout the Nation.



OUR VALUES (B.A.R.A.T.E)

BOTHO

Emphasizes our dedication to serve with humility and compassion, ensuring that every individual is treated with respect and dignity.

AGILITY

Allows us to adapt swiftly to the ever-changing landscape of public safety

RESILIENCE

Empowers us to overcome challenges with unweaving determination. We hold ourselves accountable to the highest standards, fostering trust and transparency within the community.

ACCOUNTABILITY

We will take responsibility for our actions and decisions whilst upholding the law and ensuring public trust.

TEAM WORK

We will take responsibility for our actions and decisions whilst upholding the law and ensuring public trust.

EXCELLENCE

We will take responsibility for our actions and decisions whilst upholding the law and ensuring public trust.

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Commissioner Hirschfeld: A Visionary Patriot Honoured with Dignity

The passing of Mr Simon Adolph Hirschfeld in June 2026 brought a solemn pause to the Botswana Police Service and the nation. His life was one of extraordinary service, marked by vision, patriotism and a deep commitment to building institutions that would stand the test of time.

His passing was marked by a dignified ceremonial send-off befitting a man of his stature. The Botswana Police Service honoured him with the respect and dignity he deserved, ensuring that his farewell reflected the greatness of his contribution. Prior to his burial, a memorial service was held, attended by the President of the Republic of Botswana, Advocate Duma Gideon Boko and other dignitaries, underscoring the national significance of his life and service. The funeral service itself drew many mourners, including senior government officials, former and serving members of the Botswana Police Service and the public, all united in paying tribute to a leader who had left an indelible mark on the nation.

Hirschfeld's legacy is enduring. He was more than a Commissioner; he was a nation builder whose vision continues to inspire generation of officers. His contributions remind us that true leadership is measured not only in years served but in the lasting impact left behind. As we mourn his passing, we also celebrate his life and the foundation he laid for a police service that remains a beacon of integrity and professionalism. His memory will continue to guide the Botswana Police Service, ensuring that the values he championed, patriotism, inclusivity, discipline and service remain at the heart of policing in Botswana.

Appointed in 1971 as the first Motswana Commissioner of Police during the localisation of the force, Mr Hirschfeld's leadership was both historic and transformative. For 24 years he guided the organisation, ensuring that it evolved from a colonial era structure into a reputable national institution that reflected Botswana's values of discipline, integrity and service.

Mr Hirschfeld was celebrated as a true patriot, a man whose devotion to his country was evident in every decision he made. He believed that the police service should not only enforce the law but also embody the dignity and aspirations of the people it served. His foresight was remarkable and one of his most applauded achievements was the enlistment of women into the police force in 1971. At a time when policing was seen as a male dominated profession, his progressive decision opened doors for women and strengthened the organisation by embracing inclusivity. Today, the presence of women across all ranks of the Botswana Police Service stands as a living testament to his vision.

Under his stewardship, the Botswana Police Service grew into a professional and respected organisation, admired for its discipline and effectiveness. He emphasised modernisation, training and accountability, laying the foundation for specialised units and improved policing standards. His tenure also saw the police service become the birthplace of several organisations, reflecting its role as one of the oldest and most influential institutions in the country. Through his leadership, the organisation became not only a guardian of law and order but also a pillar of national development.

May his soul continue to rest in peace!!!

LET THE VOICE OF THE CUSTOMER LEAD US.

The tagline, “Let the Voice of the Customer Lead Us,” reflects the Botswana Police Service’s commitment to serving the public with professionalism, accountability and compassion. It emphasizes the importance of listening to the concerns, expectations and experiences of members of the community in order to improve policing services and strengthen public trust.



Former Commissioner of Police, Simon Hirschfeld laid to rest

By: S/I Kefilwe Bafana
Photos by Cst Tshepang Boemo

The morning of the 09/06/2026 saw the burial of the first Motswana Police Commissioner, Mr Simon Adolph Hirschfeld in Gaborone who passed on 03/06/2026, Mr Hirschfeld who was described as a pioneer and legend for the country's law enforcement, has reigned as the Commissioner for 24 years from the years of 1971 to 1995.

In his remarks at the funeral service, the Minister for State President, Defence and Security, Honourable Moeti Caesar Mohwasa said former Commissioner Hirschfeld was a true patriot whose leadership was characterised by a deep sense of responsibility that hugely contributed to the foundation of Botswana as a country.

The Minister added that under the stewardship of Mr Hirschfeld, Botswana Police Force (BPF) transformed into a reputable organisation anchored on national values of integrity and service to the people. Among his most significant contributions was the full localisation of police leadership and the historic introduction of women into the force.

Additionally, the Minister noted that the former Commissioner Hirschfeld remained active post-retirement, serving in various portfolios. To the Hirschfeld's family, he expressed condolences on behalf of government and the nation at large.

For her part, the Commissioner of Police, Commissioner Dinah Marathe hailed former Commissioner Hirschfeld for the introduction of women into the organisation, stating that she was humbled as the first woman Police Commissioner, owing to the former's innovation.

"Today women serve with distinction across all ranks and formations including senior leadership positions, contributing immensely to operational effectiveness, strategic decision making and organisational resilience."

She underscored the former Commissioner's visionary leadership that extended further into the establishment of the Paramilitary Unit, which later evolved into Botswana Defence Force (BDF), strengthening Botswana's national security architecture.



Most notably, Commissioner Marathe acknowledged that Mr Hirschfeld's contribution towards the establishment of the Southern African Regional Police Chiefs Cooperation Organisation (SARPCCO) to enhance regional cooperation in combating cross border crime within Southern Africa.

Another speaker, Former Cabinet Minister, Mr Charles Tibone, who was also Permanent Secretary in the 70's, described Hirschfeld as a young leader of the time who was known for exhibiting excellence and integrity in his work.

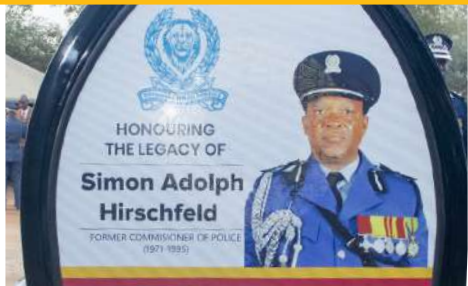
Former Commissioner Thebeyame Tsimako, who spoke on behalf of the Retired Police Officers Association, of which Hirschfeld was a member stated that the latter was a motivation and inspiration to them.

Various family speakers described Former Commissioner Hirschfeld as a dedicated father, grandfather and relative who was always present in their lives.



Pictorial for Mr Simon Hirschfeld, Former Commissioner of Police

Photos: Insp Edwin Ramotho,
S/I Kefilwe Bafana,
Cst Tshepang Boemo
& Cst Morgan Mmerekhi





SHAPING THE FUTURE OF POLICING

By: Sgt Bantshwanetse Kebodiretsewe

Photos by Cst Tshepang Boemo



innovative, community-centred policing over the next five years.

Officially launching the strategy recently, the Minister for State President, Defence and Security, Honourable Moeti Caesar Mohwasa, said it aligns with National Development Plan 12. He said it sets the direction for a modern, professional and accountable Police Service.

The Botswana Police Service (BPS) has ushered in a new era of policing with the launch of its Corporate Development Strategy (CDS) V which will run from 2026 to 2030. The strategy is a roadmap that will guide the Service in delivering

The Minister reaffirmed Government's commitment to supporting the Botswana Police Service through policy direction, institutional reforms and adequate allocation of resources. He emphasised that effective policing depends on strong partnerships between the police, communities,



The Minister For State President, Defence and Security signing off the Corporate Development Strategy V

the private sector and other stakeholders.

For her part, Commissioner of Police, Commissioner Dinah

Marathe described the launch as a defining milestone in the Service's transformation journey. She said CDS





Commissioner of Police, Commissioner Dinah Marathe signing off the Corporate Development Strategy V



Commissioner of Police
Commissioner Dinah Marathe



Deputy Commissioner, Support Services
Deputy Commissioner Stephen Tsheko

V responds to emerging threats such as cybercrime, transnational organised crime, illicit drug trafficking and Gender-Based Violence.

Commissioner Marathe said the strategy is anchored on the renewed vision of becoming **“A modern and proactive law enforcement agency of repute.”** Its mission is **“To deliver innovative and community-centred policing**

services for a safe and secure Botswana.”

She said implementation would focus on improving operational readiness and strengthening organisational capability. The Commissioner further said it would also enhance governance, promote staff welfare and build stronger stakeholder partnerships.

The Commissioner added that

CDS V builds on the successes of the previous strategy. She said these include strengthening community policing, enhancing specialised investigations and expanding forensic and cybercrime capabilities.

Giving a vote of thanks, Deputy Commissioner of Police, Support Services, Deputy Commissioner Stephen Tsheko said CDS V

clearly outlines the Service’s priorities. He said that it provides a framework for addressing both existing and emerging security threats.

Deputy Commissioner Tsheko expressed confidence that continued collaboration with stakeholders would ensure the successful implementation of the strategy. He said this would ultimately improve service delivery across the BPS.



The Minister for State President, Defence and Security, handing over the CDS V to Deputy Commissioners of Police



ESWATINI POLICE BENCHMARKS ON BPS ABIS

By: Cst Tshepang Boemo
Photos by Cst Tshepang Boemo



Assistant Commissioner of Police Collins Monnamorwa, Deputy Director, CID responsible for CRB, Botswana Police Service

Botswana Police Service (BPS) hosted a delegation from the Royal Eswatini Police Service (REPS) that was on a benchmarking visit focusing on the Automated Biometric Identification System (ABIS). The engagement, held at the Criminal Records Bureau in Gaborone on 20th April 2026, underscored the growing importance of technology in combating modern crime and promoting effective criminal justice across Southern Africa.

Welcoming the delegation, Assistant Commissioner of Police, Collins Monnamorwa, Deputy Director of the Criminal Investigations Department (CID) responsible for the Criminal Records Bureau (CRB), described ABIS as one of the most valuable tools available to contemporary policing.

He noted that criminal activity has become increasingly sophisticated and frequently crosses national borders, making accurate and timely identification of suspects more important than ever. Through biometric technologies such as fingerprint

and facial recognition, ABIS enables investigators to identify individuals with greater speed, precision and reliability. This capability strengthens investigations, supports successful prosecutions and ultimately contributes to safer communities.

The visiting delegation was led by Assistant Commissioner Julius Lukhele, Director of Finance, Procurement and Logistics for the Royal Eswatini Police Service. In his remarks, he emphasised that modern policing requires organisations to embrace continuous innovation and learning. He said benchmarking visits provide valuable opportunities to study proven systems, exchange ideas and adopt best practices that improve service delivery.

He commended the Botswana Police Service for the successful implementation and operation of ABIS, acknowledging the Service's commitment to leveraging technology to enhance policing.

Beyond presentations and discussions, the visit created a platform for officers from both organisations to exchange operational experiences and technical knowledge on biometric policing technologies.

The interaction allowed the delegation to gain a deeper understanding of the system's practical application in criminal identification, records management and investigative processes, while also enabling BPS officers to share lessons learned during implementation.



Assistant Commissioner Julius Lukhele, Director Finance, Procurement and Logistics, Royal Eswatini Police



Some of the Royal Eswatini Police delegation during the benchmark exercise



Sergeant Ikageng Tlhankane (2nd from Left), Automated Biometric Identification System (ABIS) operator, showing the delegation how the system operates

CHIROZE: THE DOG TRAINER

By: Cst Lethata Morogolwane
Photo by: Cst Mpho Phologolo

From the serene village of Makopong, nestled a stone throw to the border between Botswana and South Africa, in the Kgalagadi District, hails a remarkable woman named Tshepo Tredy Chiroze. Born in October 1987 and being the only child to her parents, Tshepo spent quality time with pets and many other toys.

She vividly recalls “Sports”, a puppy her dad bought for her when she was at primary school. Tshepo grew up with an unwavering love for animals, particularly dogs. She remembers nurturing dogs to the extent of sharing her bed with them. “Each dog I owned, somehow I managed to establish a deeper connection with them and growing up I always had a dog following me around, whether being sent to the shop or going to play with other children”.

Her journey with the Botswana Police Service (BPS) began on April 7, 2011 when she enrolled at the Police College at the age of 23. Upon completing her initial training, she was deployed to the Special Support Group (SSG) under the Band Wing. While serving in the Band, she played the clarinet. Her affection for dogs never waned amidst musical and tactical duties. Sparked by vast experience with dogs, she harbored a quiet determination to pursue a career as a dog handler.



In 2013, an opportunity knocked when Sgt Chiroze answered to an internal advertisement for dog handlers in the BPS, aced the competitive interview process to embark on a transformative path. She went on to complete a comprehensive Dog Master Course at SSG, focusing on the high-stakes skills of tracking suspects and locating missing persons. Her dedication paid off immensely when she became the first female dog master in the organisation.

“After completing the course in 2013, I took a mission

with the Botswana Defence Force K9 personnel to track Poachers operating within the Chobe National Park in Kasane. Utilizing various tracking techniques, we followed their movement closely. During our pursuit, the poachers became aware of our presence and abandoned their campsites, fleeing into the neighboring wilderness. In their haste they left behind all their belongings, which provided us with evidence and insights into their activities” narrated Sgt Chiroze.

In the late 2015, Tshepo expanded her expertise at an International stage by attending an advanced Dog Training Instructor Course at the Mechem Dog Training Academy in Pretoria, South Africa. There, she earned specialized Certification in Substance Detection and Tracker Dog Handler Instructor. This achievement cemented her legacy, making her the first and only female training instructor in the Botswana Police Service.(what does the job entails and Achievement)

Today as she continues to train the next generation of canine handlers, Tshepo Tredy Chiroze stands as a living testament to the power of perseverance. Chiroze’s unwavering commitment to excellence did not go unnoticed. In April 2018 she was promoted to the rank of sergeant, further solidifying her legacy as a pioneer.

Her journey is a beacon of inspiration, proving that with passion, determination, and hard work, barriers can be broken.



Sergeant Tshepo Tredy Chiroze walking her late trekker dog which was named Roxie



STOP STOCK THEFT

PROTECT OUR LIVELIHOOD, SECURE OUR FUTURE!

Stock theft robs our communities,
destroys livelihoods and threatens
food security.

**BE VIGILANT. BE RESPONSIBLE.
REPORT SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITY.**



GOOD REARING PRACTICES DETER THEFT

1. SECURE YOUR CAMPS

Use strong fencing
and secure gates.
Inspect regularly
and repair.

2. IMPROVE NIGHT SECURITY

Use proper lighting
or solar lights.
Consider having
guard dogs.

3. BE WATCHFUL

Know your neighbours
and report strangers
or unusual vehicle
movements.

4. IDENTIFY YOUR STOCK

Use ear tags,
brands or paints.
Record markings
and numbers.

5. KEEP RECORDS

Maintain up-to-date
records of your
livestock (numbers,
descriptions,
movement).

6. WORK TOGETHER

Join or form stock
watches and work
with your community
and Police.

SEE SOMETHING? SAY SOMETHING!
REPORT STOCK THEFT TO YOUR NEAREST POLICE STATION.



REPORT ALL SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITY
Dial 999 / or report to the nearest Police Station



**TOGETHER WE CAN
STOP STOCK THEFT!**