

'Fire brutal Tshwane Metro cops'

AFRIFORUM: *Officers' brutality
aired on television show*

TSHIFHIWA SHONISANI

CIVIL rights organisation AfriForum and the Democratic Alliance (DA) yesterday called on the chief of Tshwane Metro police Mpho Mmutle to investigate the officers' brutality broadcast on M-Net's *Carte Blanche* at the weekend.

The two parties were outraged after "shocking visual material of Metro police members unlawfully yanking a young lady around and arresting her" was aired on Sunday.

Magdel Steyn, 24, from Germiston was arrested and locked up for about 15 hours for alleged double parking in Sunnyside on November 30 last year. She was charged with reckless and negligent driving and was only released after paying a R1 500 admission of guilt fine.

The incident was captured on the city's closed circuit television cameras.

Four months later, AfriForum got hold of the tape and released it.

The organisation's head of community safety, Nantes Kelder, said they had already discussed the matter with Francois Beukman, the executive director of the Independent Complaints Directorate (ICD). "The incident is regarded in a serious light and the ICD will investigate it further. We have also sent a letter of demand to the Tshwane Metro police's Commissioner Mmutle to immediately suspend members involved or to fire them," Kelder said.

AfriForum will apply for an urgent court order to enforce the demands if they failed to take any action.

DA spokesman for community safety in Tshwane, Karen Meyer, said the visual was clear that Metro police overstepped their bounds with the citizens.