Media Statement

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To: ALL MEDIA

Attention: NEWS EDITORS/ REPORTERS/ PR WIRE

Learner License Fraud conviction

The KZN Department of Transport has welcomed the long overdue conviction of a Zululand driving school owner involved in Learner License fraud. Mr. Rashed Khan pleaded guilty to a charge of fraud yesterday at the Mtubatuba Regional Court. He was given a fine of R25 000 or 18 months in prison.

This follows a joint venture operation by the SAPS Organised Crime (Richardsbay) unit and Traffic and Transport Inspection Unit. Khan, five Mtubatuba Testing Centre officials and an examiner were arrested in July 2004 for soliciting R1500 from learners for a guaranteed pass and being in possession of government documents used for the learner license tests. It is alleged that a sum of R300 per student was further passed on to the examiner before each test.

We regard this conviction as a victory for the department as it's in line with our "No to FAKE licenses" campaign.

The case for the other officials has been postponed until March 2006.

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