## MEDIA STATEMENT BY KWAZULU-NATAL MEC FOR TRANSPORT, COMMUNITY SAFETY AND LIAISON MR BHEKI CELE AT A MEDIA BRIFIENG HELD AT THE HILTON HOTEL IN DURBAN ON 08/11/12 at 7h30 am

## KZN TRANSPORT HITS HARD ON CORRUPTS OFFICIALS FOR ISSUING FRADULENT LICENSES

The KwaZulu- Natal Department of Transport have instituted an investigation on 9 of its officials from the Road Traffic Inspectorate at the Rossburgh Testing Stations for the alleged involvement in fraud and corruption activities. One official by the name of Mr AC Naidoo has been suspended for a serious sexual harassment case; four are awaiting disciplinary inquiry and the remaining four officials are being investigated. This comes after the department launched its High-Tech driver certification system in Rossburgh which has begun to yield good results. The system was launched during October Transport Month last year (2005).

The department have gathered extensive watertight evidence from the new computerised camera system to assist with the investigation to prosecute the culprits, who have been charged for allegedly engaging on corrupt and fraudulent activities – KUPHELILE FINITO

These kinds of alarming reports are a complete draw-back to the department, we are terribly saddened and disappointed about officials who choose to starve their families and lose their jobs over futile activities. Our slogan 'From Zero Tolerance to 100% Compliance' will apply in all sectors of governance and administration within the department of transport. The department wishes to warn and urge all other officers who are still conducting corrupt activities that the long arm of the law will soon reach them.

The department is beginning to link corruption in the department with other stakeholders – Driving Schools and Vehicle Testing Stations. The battle between Driving Schools and the department has been fuelled by the fact that the new system prevented all possible corrupt activities.

Since the installation of the Driver Certification Centre in Rossburgh the pass rate has dropped from 55% to 15%. This shows a clear indication that the issuing of licenses and the manner in which tests were conducted was highly questionable.

Department of Transport will further speed up the roll out process to all other stations in the province in order to proactively address all unforeseen challenges ahead. The revamped driver certification centre has been installed in Pinetown and Pietermaritzburg Testing Grounds to date.

The department would like to thank all members of the public who have submitted their affidavits in making it possible to arrest officials who are crippling our service delivery mandate. We urge all departmental officials to hold on to the ideals of defending the weak by ensuring safety of the people of the province.

The Department of Transport will leave no stone unturned in ensuring that our roads are safe and protected from illegal drag racing activities. The department has strengthened policing around the notorious areas - thus far we have confiscated 600 illegally modified drag racing vehicles.

NO TO FAKE LICENCES -KUPHELILE FINITO

## **ENDS**

Issued by the Office of the MEC for Transport, Community Safety and Liaison.

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