## **MEDIA ALERT**

TO : ALL MEDIA DATE : 07 MAY 2008

ATTENTION : NEWS EDITORS/REPORTERS AND PR WIRE

## MEC CELE COMMENDS LAW ENFORCERS ON THEIR 'NO NONSENSE APPROACH' OVER THE LONG WEEKEND

KWAZULU-NATAL Transport, Community Safety and Liaison MEC Mr. Bheki Cele want to congratulate Road Traffic Inspectorate (RTI) for their continuous success of catching the lawbreakers for traffic violation on our roads around the KZN Province this past long weekend.

The statistics reveal that a number of intensified 24hr operations were conducted around the KZN province due to a large number of motorists coming through for the long weekend. The operation started on Thursday (01/05/08) up to Monday (04/05/08) where the following were checked: permits, road worthiness of the vehicle, seat belts, Speed, drunken driving and also the validity of driver's licenses.

The total numbers of vehicles stopped were 31029. Among all the vehicles stopped 107 were suspended for their unroadworthiness, 586 drivers had no driving licenses, 268 vehicles were unlicensed, 11 people were charged for speeding and 392 were charged for seat belts. 235 drivers were charged for drunken driving and off this figure 147 were arrested in the Pietermaritzburg and surrounding areas.

"Although these figures have decreased, one life lost due to human error is one too many, that is why we will continue with our efforts through law enforcement with the help of other units to sweep away all the law breakers who violate the rules of the road. We reprimand all drivers to avoid driving unroadworthy vehicles in order to ensure that our roads are safe at all times. Once again the call is made for all drivers to always have an insight into road safety best practices and through this, be in a better position to help save lives wasted on our road everyday" said Cele.

ENDS.

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