



PROVINCE OF KWAZULU - NATAL - ISIFUNDAZWE SAKWAZULU - NATALI  
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORT  
UMNYANGO WEZOKUTHUTHA

**MEDIA RELEASE**

**DATE: 17 NOVEMBER 2008**

**MEC CELE WARNS MOTORISTS ON USING CELLULAR PHONES WHILST DRIVING**

KwaZulu-Natal MEC for Transport, Community Safety and Liaison Mr. Bheki Cele warns all motorists travelling on the Provincial Roads to comply with the law by not using cellular phones whilst driving as this puts the drivers and other people at risk. Failing to comply will pose serious consequences.

Traffic officers will be deployed along all major routes to target this offence. Overseas research shows that talking on your cell phone whilst driving is a common practice in congested urban areas leading to major distraction, in particular at intersections and at traffic signals.

International surveys have shown that amongst 837 drivers talking on cell phones whilst driving almost 50% swerved or drifted into another lane, 23% tailgated, 21% cut someone off and 18% nearly hit another vehicle.

"There is a growing concern of the dangers posed by motorists using cellular phones whilst driving. With festive season fast approaching us, using your cell phone whilst driving is putting yourself and other people at risk and this will not be tolerated. We are warning motorists to comply with the law or face the full might of the law," said Cele."

**ENDS**

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