



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

TO: ALL MEDIA

DATE: 20 JULY 2009

ATTENTION: NEWS EDITORS/REPORTERS AND PR WIRES

**KZN TRANSPORT SET ON ENDING UNLAWFULL TAXI OPERATORS IN NEWCASTLE**

KwaZulu-Natal MEC for Transport, Community Safety and Liaison Mr. Bheki Cele is condemning all taxi owners who operate their taxis without the necessary operating permits; this follows a law enforcement and compliance exercise that took place from last week Friday-Sunday (17-19 July 2009) at Newcastle.

In keeping in line with the Departments commitment of ensuring that all taxi owners operate within the set requirements of having lawful operating permits in their respective associations, the Department of Transport conducted a law enforcement and compliance operation at Newcastle and surrounding areas. The main purpose of this operation was to maintain law and order within the taxi industry in the province.

During this operation a total of 90 taxis were impounded for operating without a permit, 11 were suspended for being unroadworthy and 29 were deemed to have minor defects. There is still a strong police presence at the Newcastle taxi rank to monitor the situation and to maintain law and order.

**“We are going to continue enforcing the law when it comes to taxis that operate without permits and that are not road-worthy. The safety and well being of our passengers remains our main priority, said Cele”.**

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