



PROVINCE OF KWAZULU - NATAL - ISIFUNDAZWE SAKWAZULU - NATALI

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORT

UMNYANGO WEZOKUTHUTHA

MEDIA STATEMENT

TO : ALL MEDIA

DATE : 05/04/12

ZERO TOLERANCE ON KZN ROADS THIS EASTER HOLIDAYS – MCHUNU

KZN MEC for Transport, Community Safety and Liaison, Willies Mchunu has vowed that the province will strengthen its enforcement capacity to the maximum to ensure zero tolerance on the road this Easter Holidays.

More than 1000 traffic officers, including members of the Public Transport Enforcement Unit (PTEU), are deployed to conduct operations in key spots in the province.

The Department has also released examiners who work at licence testing centres to assist in beefing up operations on the road.

Mchunu said this is a clear indication that the provincial Transport Department is serious about reducing road carnage this Easter Holidays.

Multi-disciplinary road blocks which include SAPS, Customs (SARS) and municipal traffic authorities, will be conducted across the province.

In the past this integrated approach to road blocks has yielded desirable results, tackling transgressions and crime simultaneously.

Since the beginning of this week, more than 35 taxis were impounded for operating without operating licences.

Mchunu said this year's operations will be focusing on testing drivers for alcohol, testing vehicle roadworthiness, operating licences for public transport and speeding.

The Department is on a campaign to mobilize all people of KwaZulu-Natal to rally behind its road safety initiative which has been dubbed, Operation Valingozi, which seeks to revive consciences of all road users to respect and obey traffic laws.

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Mchunu said: **“Since we launched our Easter Road safety campaign three weeks ago, there is huge improvement. We are going all out this weekend to maximize enforcement as we are adopting zero tolerance approach. We caution all motorists and road users to respect and adhere to road rules. Everyone, including general public and commuters, must be our road safety ambassadors and must refuse the overloading of passengers. We are calling on all people of KwaZulu-Natal and our visitors to speak to their consciences and abide by the rules of the road. One life lost is one too many, therefore we all have a responsibility of saving lives on the road. I wish you a peaceful and safe Easter Holidays”** said Mchunu

Mchunu and the Acting HoD for Transport, Mr Sbu Gumbu are expected to visit some of the law enforcement road blocks as well as church to advance road safety awareness interventions during the Easter Weekend.

The intention is to mobilize churches to prioritize road safety and to develop sound programmes of action to fight the scourge of road carnage.

End

Kwanele Ncalane – 072 803 1462

Ends

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