



PROVINCE OF KWAZULU - NATAL - ISIFUNDAZWE SAKWAZULU - NATALI

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORT

UMNYANGO WEZOKUTHUTHA

MEDIA STATEMENT

TO : ALL MEDIA

DATE : 01/03/2012

MCHUNU SADDEN BY DEATH OF A NINE YEAR OLD

KZN MEC for Transport, Community Safety and Liaison, Mr Willies Mchunu is sadden by the death of a nine year old who was hit and killed by a truck today (01/03/12).

It is alleged that Olwethu Mphindwa (9) was sleeping at his home in Thornwood, when the truck lost control and hit the nearby house.

The preliminary report indicates that the truck experienced a brake failure and became uncontrollable.

The truck driver attempted to escape from the truck when he realized that the truck was gaining momentum but unfortunately died in his attempt.

The truck then lost control hit an electrical pole and plunge into the nearby house. Olwethu also died on the scene.

Three pedestrians were electrocuted and sustained injuries.

Mchunu expressed sadness following this accident and vow that his department will work tirelessly to reduce road fatalities.

"I am shocked by this gruesome accident. My heart is really broken especially by the loss of a nine year old, Olwethu. Such terrible accidents are depriving young ones a fundamental right to life. We all have to double our efforts in reducing the spate of road carnage. I appeal to motorists and all road users to respect and adhere to the law. We maintain our position that road accidents do not happen but are caused. I wish to send my condolences to the family of the truck driver and to the Mphindwa family," said Mchunu.

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