



# transport

Department:

Transport

Province of KwaZulu-Natal

Street Address: 172 Burger Street,  
Pietermaritzburg, 3200

Postal Address: Private Bag X9043,  
Pietermaritzburg, 3200

Tel: (27)(33) 355 8664

Cell: 072803146 / 0796995755

Fax: (27)(33) 355 8632

Email: [Kwanele.Ncalane@Kzntransport.gov.za](mailto:Kwanele.Ncalane@Kzntransport.gov.za)

Website: <http://www.kzntransport.gov.za>

## MEDIA LIAISON AND PUBLIC RELATIONS

### MEDIA STATEMENT

TO : ALL MEDIA  
DATE : 13 DECEMBER 2013  
ATTENTION : NEWS EDITORS, EDITORS AND PR WIRES

### **TAXI ACCIDENT CLAIMS 7 LIVES ON N2 MDONINI, PONGOLA**

**PONGOLA** – KwaZulu-Natal (KZN) MEC for Transport, Community Safety and Liaison, Willies Mchunu, has expressed his shock on learning of the tragic head-on collision involving a minibus taxi and a Toyota Tazz, which claimed seven lives on the N2 in Mdonini, near Pongola, yesterday afternoon (12 December 2013).

Preliminary reports reveal that a taxi carrying passengers tried to overtake and collided head-on with a Toyota Tazz, which was carrying five passengers. The taxi which allegedly had 18 passengers lost two of its occupants, the driver and one female passenger who died in hospital. Five of the male occupants in the Toyota Tazz died on the scene. The 16 other occupants in the mini bus taxi are said to be in a critical state and are receiving medical care at Itshelejuba hospital.

A team of accident experts has been dispatched to investigate the real cause of this accident. The department's Road Traffic Inspectorate (RTI) has confirmed that minibus taxis are officially required to carry only 16 passengers, and in this instance the number exceeded the required number.

MEC Mchunu, has on behalf of government, expressed his deepest condolences to the families who lost their loved ones.

"We are deeply saddened by the loss of lives due to this gruesome accident. On behalf of the provincial government, I wish to send my heartfelt condolences to the families and friends of those who lost their lives in this accident and wish those in hospital a speedy recovery. We're already in the festive season and I would like to call upon all road users to remain vigilant at all times, show

*'prosperity through mobility'*

patience and obey the rules of the road. Our multi-disciplinary law enforcement teams are all out to deal harshly with those who disobey the road rules," said Mchunu.

Ends.

Media contacts:

Kwanele Ncalane - [072 803 1462](tel:0728031462)/ 079 699 5755/[Kwanele.ncalane@kzntransport.gov.za](mailto:Kwanele.ncalane@kzntransport.gov.za)

Nathi Sukazi - [081 018 0518](tel:0810180518)/ 082 565 0205/[Nathi.Sukazi@kzntransport.gov.za](mailto:Nathi.Sukazi@kzntransport.gov.za)

Website: [www.kzntransport.gov.za](http://www.kzntransport.gov.za)

Twitter: @KZNTransport

Facebook: [www.facebook.com/kzntransport](http://www.facebook.com/kzntransport)

*'prosperity through mobility'*