

MEDIA LIAISON AND PUBLIC RELATIONS

MEDIA ADVISORY

TO: ALL MEDIA

DATE: Monday, 28 July 2014

ATTENTION: Editors, News Editors and PR Wires

MEC DHLOMO DISMAYED AT THE SPATE OF WEEKEND ACCIDENTS

The Acting MEC for Transport, Community Safety and Liaison who is also Health MEC, Dr. Sibongiseni Dhlomo, has called on all road users to do their utmost best in strictly observing road traffic rules to prevent accidents and save people's lives.

He was commenting after several accidents that claimed scores of people's lives over the weekend including last night's crash, which killed seven people on the R33 near Dundee. The accident occurred at about 21h00 on the R33, 10km away from Dundee towards Pomoroy, when two light motor vehicles, one registered in Dundee (Opel Corsa) and another in the Gauteng Province (Opel Astra) collided head-on, leaving five people dead on the scene. The other two people died in hospital from serious injuries. Preliminary reports have revealed that five of the deceased from the Dundee registered vehicle (two adults and three children) may be foreign nationals and possibly of the same family, but this is yet to be confirmed once the next-of-kin have been identified and informed.

From the Gauteng-registered vehicle, initial reports indicate that there were four children – of whom two are deceased and the other two are in hospital as well as their critically injured driver - in the vehicle.

"There were several collisions that took place in various parts of the province at the weekend, but the one that happened in Dundee last night and killed mostly children or young persons, is very disheartening. On behalf of the government, we wish to send our deepest condolences to all the families that lost their loved ones. We further reiterate that the responsibility to save lives rests with all of us as road users. Let us commit ourselves to respecting the rules of the road and save people's lives. It is in our best interest," said Dhlomo.

Ends.

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