



transport
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MEDIA LIAISON AND PUBLIC RELATIONS

MEDIA STATEMENT

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EASTER HOLIDAYS ROAD SAFETY CAMPAIGN LAUNCHED IN CLERMONT

Durban - The KwaZulu-Natal Department of Transport today launched its 2014 Easter holidays road safety campaign in Clermont Township, in EThekweni.

MEC for Health, Dr. Sibongiseni Dhlomo standing in for the MEC for Transport, Community and Liaison Willie Mchunu, first led the People's March for Safety, which went through the township from Clermont rank to Sugar Ray Xulu Stadium.

Dhlomo was accompanied by the Head of Department Sbusiso Gumbi, Mayor of EThekweni, Councillor James Nxumalo, national Deputy President and Provincial chairperson of SANTACO, Boy Zondi, and other local leaders amongst others. The march was preceded by an awareness raising motorcade through the township, which was used to encourage members of the community to prioritise safety on the roads and also root out criminal elements within the communities.

MEC Dhlomo indicated that the United Nations road safety declaration 2011-2020 calls for the reduction of road fatalities by 50%. This he said compels everyone to take responsibility by obeying the laws of the country. He further alluded to the increased traffic volumes that will be expected in the province, which calls for people to have patience and be extra vigilant on the road.

"This launch symbolises the beginning of the department's intensified road safety program during the Easter holidays and beyond. All enforcement agencies are on the alert to deal with the high traffic volumes expected in the province and act decisively with those who will be breaking the law," said Dhlomo.

A total of 792 traffic officers will be deployed throughout the province and visible in high accident zones. The integrated law enforcement services, which include the South African Police Services, Customs, Cross Border and immigration forces, will form part of the broader enforcement plan.

Speaking to more than 3 000 people at the stadium, Dhlomo urged road users to always observe road traffic rules, fasten their seatbelts, not drive under the influence of alcohol, ensure that vehicles are roadworthy and exercise patience on the road.

He further wished all religious groups who will be travelling to different destinations a safe travel and urged them to pray for the reduction of fatalities on the roads.

"We urge all public transport operators to ferry passengers safely to their destinations. It is pleasing to know that the SANTACO leadership is in support of all initiatives that are meant to save lives on the roads. On behalf of the provincial government of KwaZulu Natal, I wish everyone a safe and joyful Easter period," said Dhlomo.

Ends.

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