

MEDIA LIAISON AND PUBLIC RELATIONS

MEDIA STATEMENT

TO: ALL MEDIA

DATE: 7 September 2014

ATTENTION: Editors, News Editors and PR Wires

MEC MCHUNU CAUTIONS ROAD USERS TO STAY ALERT AFTER N3 (ESTCOURT) ACCIDENT

KwaZulu-Natal MEC for Transport, Community Safety and Liaison, Mr. Willies Mchunu, has cautioned road users, especially drivers, to remain alert behind the wheel after learning of the N3, near Esctourt, accident that has claimed three people earlier today.

Road Traffic Inspectorate report's revealed that a minibus taxi was travelling from Pietermaritzburg to Johannesburg, when the driver lost control today.

There were three people who died on the scene, five passengers who sustained critical injuries, eight with serious injuries and one with light injury. They were taken to the local hospital.

Reacting to this tragic accident, Mchunu appealed to all road users to respect the road traffic rules and exercise vigilance on the road.

"It is painful that three people have died on the N3. We have assigned a team to institute an investigation into the cause of this accident. On behalf of government, I wish to send our deepest condolences to the families of the deceased and speedy recovery of the injured," said Mchunu.

Mchunu also expressed concern that there were other accidents reported across the province over the weekend.

"Once again we reiterate that road safety is our collective responsibility and all of us must play our part in saving lives on the road. As government we are investing more resources and beefing up our law enforcement to prevent and reduce accidents. Our campaigns are also targeting to increase road safety awareness among pedestrians," said Mchunu.

Ends.

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