

MEDIA LIAISON AND PUBLIC RELATIONS

MEDIA STATEMENT

TO : ALL MEDIA

DATE: 6 October 2014

ATTENTION : EDITORS, NEWS EDITORS AND PR WIRES

MCHUNU DISMAYED AT DEADLY WEEKEND ACCIDENTS IN KWAZULU-NATAL

KWAZULU-NATAL MEC for Transport, Community Safety and Liaison, Mr. Willies Mchunu, has expressed his concern at the mayhem that occurred in the province at the weekend.

Mchunu noted this after receiving reports that over the weekend there were a number of incidents that occurred. The first incident was of an alleged drunken driver who led police on a wild goose chase from the N3 before crashing into two stationary vehicles in Francis Staniland Drive in Montrose. The perpetrator was apprehended by the police after the incident.

But of grave concern were reports that at least 11 people lost their lives in numerous accidents across the province.

One accident occurred on the Inkandla road where an EMRS bus overturned and left three people dead on the scene and seven people had to be rushed to Ngwelezane Hospital to receive medical attention.

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prosperity through mobility

In another accident in Mangethe area, four people were killed when an INyathi minibus collided head-on with a Nissan vehicle and left six people injured, who were taken to Stanger hospital to get medical assistance.

In Mtentweni, four people died when a Toyota Corolla collided with another Toyota Corolla. All occupants in one Toyota died instantly while the occupants of the second Toyota sustained injuries.

Mchunu said this was disturbing as these accidents happened shortly after the launch of the Department's annual October Transport Month 2014 programme on Friday, the 3rd of October in Bridge City, KwaMashu.

"It is very disturbing to receive reports that 11 people have lost their lives in the first weekend after we declared war against road accidents, crashes and fatalities during our launch of the provincial October Transport Month 2014 programme. During the launch we called upon all our stakeholders - and they all agreed - that road safety is our collective responsibility. We would like for all road users to appeal to their consciences when they are on the road, and make it their business to ensure the safety of all by strictly respecting all road traffic rules. On behalf of the government, I would like to send my condolences to the families who lost their loved ones and wish all those in hospital a speedy recovery," said Mchunu.

Ends.

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