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MEDIA LIAISON AND PUBLIC RELATIONS

MEDIA RELEASE

TO: ALL MEDIA DATE: 4 August 2014

ATTENTION: Editors, News Editors & PR Wires

SUNDAY NIGHT N11 COLLISION CLAIMS 6 LIVES

KwaZulu-Natal MEC for Transport, Community Safety and Liaison, Mr. Willies Mchunu, has expressed deep concerns at the increasing fatal road accidents and crashes recently, which have claimed scores of people's lives.

Mchunu was commenting after learning of the deadly head-on collision, which left six people dead in Ladysmith, last night (Sunday, 3 August).

According to the initial report by law enforcement agencies, a VW Touran collided head-on with a Toyota Corolla on N-11 before the Elanslaagte turn-off. All six deceased were occupants of the Toyota Corolla while four occupants from the VW Touran sustained injuries and were taken to the local hospital.

Reacting to the horrific news, MEC Mchunu said: "We are very disturbed by the loss of so many lives following this tragic accident. A team of officials from the department's Road Safety and Road Traffic Inspectorate, working with the police, were sent overnight to attend to the accident, and will help locate families and provide all necessary support. As per normal, we will also launch a full investigation into the cause of this dreadful accident. On behalf of the Government, we extend our heartfelt condolences to the families who lost their loved ones in this accident."

He said it was unacceptable that lives continued to be lost on our roads from preventable accidents.

"Human error continues to be a big factor in accidents occurring in the province. It remains our strong view that road safety is everyone's business. Law enforcement will play its part, but there must be radical mind-set and attitude change if we are to win the battle against the road carnage," he added.

Ends.

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