

MEDIA LIAISON AND PUBLIC RELATIONS

MEDIA STATEMENT

TO : ALL MEDIA

DATE: Friday, 22 August 2014

ATTENTION : News, Editors, and PR Wires

THREE DIE IN MORNING TRUCK AND BAKKIE HEAD-ON COLLISION AT CEDARVILLE, KOSTAD

The MEC for Transport, Community Safety and Liaison, Mr. Willies Mchunu, has expressed his immense shock after a bakkie and a truck collided head-on claiming three lives in the early hours of this morning.

According to preliminary reports the accident happened when the truck travelling towards Cedarville along D636 on a one-way bridge near Kokstad collided into the bakkie which was travelling in the opposite direction towards Swartburg. Three occupants died on the scene and 11 more sustained minor injuries. They were taken to Usher Memorial Hospital in Kokstad. All the deceased and injured were traveling in the bakkie.

"I am deeply saddened by the loss of lives in such a gruesome manner. I reiterate our call for all road users to remain vigilant and patient as well as adhere to road traffic rules. We will only win the war against the road carnage when we start to realise that the responsibility to save rests with all of us as road users. On behalf of the government of KwaZulu-Natal, I would like to send our deepest condolences to the families of the deceased and a speedy recovery to the injured," said Mchunu.

In a separate incident a driver of an Audi A5 was arrested on the N2 Tugela bridge doing 187 km/h and taken to Mandeni SAPS. "I would like to commend the police for continuing with their hard work in ensuring that road transgressors are caught and brought to book," said Mchunu.

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