

transport

Department: Transport **Province of KwaZulu-Natal**

COMMUNICATIONS

MEDIA STATEMENT

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MEC KAUNDA SHOCKED AT THE DEATH OF FOUR PUPILS IN A CAR CRASH AT NTUZUMA

The KwaZulu-Natal MEC for Transport, Community Safety and Liaison, Mr. Mxolisi Kaunda, has learnt with great shock the passing of four learners in a gruesome minibus taxi and a bus crash today in Ntuzuma, a township to the north of Durban.

Preliminary reports indicate that a bus and a minibus taxi collided head-on this morning killing four learners on the scene, critically injuring one learner who was airlifted to King Edward Hospital, whilst 10 learners with minor injuries were transported to the nearest Ntuzuma, Inanda and Kwamashu clinics. It is alleged that the crash occurred when the driver of the minibus taxi was trying to overtake and it collided head-on with the Metro Bus coming from the opposite direction. A case of culpable homicide has been opened pending investigation.

Kaunda has expressed his sadness at the death of these learners, saying **"it is very disheartening to receive such disturbing news and especially on the first day of school in the year 2017."**

"This crash comes in spite of our tireless efforts to curb road crashes in the Province, and it is extremely painful. On behalf of government, we would like to extend our heartfelt condolences to the families of the deceased learners, and wish the injured learners speedy recovery. We further appeal to drivers to exercise extreme caution on the road at all times to ensure that people's lives are saved," said Kaunda.

Ends.

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