



transport

Department:
Transport
Province of KwaZulu-Natal

MEDIA LIAISON AND PUBLIC RELATIONS

MEDIA STATEMENT

TO: ALL MEDIA
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ATTENTION: Editors, News Editors & PR Wires

SHOCK AS FIVE PERISH IN A CRASH IN BERGVILLE

The KwaZulu-Natal MEC for Transport, Community Safety and Liaison, Mr. Mxolisi Kaunda, received with shock the news of a vehicle crash that left five (5) people dead on the R616 in Bergville, near Ladysmith yesterday evening (Monday, 4 September 2017).

Whilst the law enforcement agencies are still busy with the investigation, preliminary reports indicate that a Range Rover, which was carrying three passengers, who all escaped with minor injuries, collided head-on with a Toyota Avanza, which had eight (8) occupants in it. Five people from the Toyota died instantly upon impact, with three escaping with minor injuries. The injured persons were rushed to Ladysmith provincial hospital to receive medical and trauma care. Forensic experts have been dispatched to further investigate the real cause of the crash.

Kaunda has expressed his concerns over the continued loss of lives on the provincial roads; particularly after a recent crash that left 19 people dead in KwaXimba. Following the recent crashes that have been reported around the province, Kaunda met with senior officials from the Department of Transport, including law enforcement, to discuss road safety strategies to save lives on the roads.

“It is disturbing to lose so many lives on our roads. As a department working on critical interventions and measures that will be taken urgently to deal with this scourge. Road safety is a collective responsibility; therefore, we must all put our shoulders onto the wheel and save lives. On behalf of the department and the provincial government, we wish to convey our deepest condolences to the families of the deceased and wish those in hospital a speedy recovery,” said Kaunda.

ENDS.

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