



# transport

Department:  
Transport  
Province of KwaZulu-Natal

## **MEDIA STATEMENT**

Wednesday, 07 March 2018

### **MEC KAUNDA APPLAUDS THE SWIFT ARRESTS OF 15 SUSPECTS IN UMNGENI MUNICIPALITY'S TESTING STATION IN HOWICK**

The KwaZulu-Natal MEC for Transport, Community Safety and Liaison, Mr. Mxolisi Kaunda, has applauded the swift arrest of 15 people in UMngeni Municipality Testing Station for alleged fraud and corruption.

A joint police detective team including members of the Traffic and Transport Inspection Unit (TTIU) under the KZN Department of Transport's Public Transport Enforcement Services (PTES), the Road Traffic Management Corporation (RTMC), the National Traffic Police Anti-Corruption Unit, and the Directorate for Priority of Crime Investigation (popularly known as the Hawks) initiated the investigation about a year ago. It is alleged that the Howick DLTC under the UMngeni Local Municipality, within the Umgungundlovu District Municipality, was illegally assisting applicants to pass their learner drivers' licences. The investigation team had installed devices to assist them with proving these allegations.

Yesterday (6 March 2018), nine (9) applicants were writing their exam, when allegedly an examiner used a laser pointer, to assist applicants in selecting the correct answers. All nine applicants passed their exam. Arrests were made yesterday, which included five (5) examiners, nine (9) applicants and one (1) cleaner, who was found to be in possession of a large sum of money. They were all taken to Durban police stations and charged with fraud and corruption pending further investigation. They will appear in the Durban Court today (7 March 2018).

Kaunda has commended the team working on this investigation for the hard work which will help in rooting out corruption in DLTCs.

**"Yesterday's breakthrough is an indication that our police will not tolerate any kind of fraud and corruption. We commend the team working on this investigation for having worked hard and going as far as apprehending suspects. This determination by the team proves beyond doubt that as government, working across and through relevant agencies, we are prepared to root out all corrupt activities from our traffic management systems and processes. The arrest of the 15 suspects, including five examiners indicates our long-standing view that the government is determined to restore order and stability in the DLTCs. This will also send out a clear message to all those who are still involved in any criminal activities that we will leave no stone unturned to ensure that our Province is a crime-free one,"** said Kaunda.

Kaunda vowed that the team of anti-corruption units will continue to monitor the DLTCs across the province to make sure that such activities are brought to an end.

ENDS.

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