

## transport

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

## MEDIA STATEMENT

Monday, 09 September 2019

## TWENTY-FOUR DRUNK DRIVERS ARRESTED DURING THE REED DANCE WEEKEND IN KWANONGOMA

KwaZulu-Natal- Head of Department, Mr. Sibusiso Gumbi, has commended the law enforcement officers for a sterling job following stringent law enforcement operations that led to the arrest of three drunk drivers who were transporting maidens from the reed dance in eNyokeni KwaNongoma yesterday (08 September 2019).

This, he said following rigorous enforcement operations that started on Monday (02 September 2019) at UMdloti RTI, focusing on the roadworthiness of busses and minibus taxis listed to transport maidens. The operation at uMdloti was conducted in the presence of the former MEC for Transport, Community Safety and Liaison, Mr. Mxolisi Kaunda and the MEC for Arts, Culture, Sport and Recreation Ms. Hlengiwe Mavimbela.

Integrated traffic law enforcement operations were conducted throughout the province over the weekend, focusing on overloading, excessive speeding, drinking and driving, seatbelts, vehicle and driver fitness and roadworthiness. These operations were deemed successful by HoD Gumbi as they led to the arrest of three drivers who were detained at KwaNongoma Police station. One of the drivers is allegedly from Mpumalanga province.

The operations commenced on Friday (06 September 2019) and off the vehicles that were stopped, five (5) were suspended for various defaults, fourteen (14) charged for drinking and driving and three stolen vehicles were recovered.

HoD Gumbi commended the law enforcement officers for their sterling job in ensuring the safety of all road users, particularly maidens who travelled from all corners of the province to attend the annual cultural reed dance.

"It is quite pleasing to know that the province we registered no major fatal crashes over the weekend, and this should be attributed to the hard work of our law enforcement officers. It is more fulfilling to know that all those who broke the law were dealt with harshly and will face the full might of the law. The integrated plan we presented has indeed yielded positive results. We will continue sustaining this momentum. Indeed, KwaZulu-Natal Alufakwa Lubuya Nehlongandlebe," said Gumbi.

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