



KWAZULU-NATAL PROVINCE

TRANSPORT
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

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MEDIA STATEMENT

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MEC NKONYENI INTENSIFIES ROAD SAFETY OPERATIONS AHEAD OF THE FESTIVE SEASON

KwaZulu-Natal MEC for Transport, Community Safety and Liaison, Ms. Neliswa Peggy Nkonyeni has taken a sharp stride in ensuring road safety. This morning, (05 Sunday, December 2021), MEC Nkonyeni led an integrated law enforcement operation at the Kosi Bay border in Umhlabuyalingana Municipality. The operation was mainly targeting cross border crimes such as car theft. Over the years the area has been the target of criminals who steals cars and take them across the border.

The operation followed a successfully launch of the Integrated Safer Plan, which was led by Honourable Premier Sihle Zikalala on Tuesday, 30 November 2021 in Durban. The plan emphasised a number of activities that are earmarked for this year's Festive Season to curb crime and road carnages.

This morning's operation saw five drivers being arrested for driving under the influence, two vehicles suspended and a total of 25 charges issued for various crimes.

MEC Nkonyeni said, "This is just the highlight of how our festive season will look like. We are tired of people who disobey traffic laws. We want people to know that our roads are not their playground, and we are going to be hard on all those people. We are also sending a clear message to criminals who are terrorising people around here by stealing their cars that we want this thing to end."

The operation took place just after the news of a tragic accident on Saturday night that claimed seven lives and left twelve people injured on the R56 between Richmond and Baynesfield. Preliminary reports suggest that a driver of a light motor vehicle was trying to overtake on a solid line when crashing on a full-loaded Toyota Quantum.

MEC Nkonyeni has directed a thorough investigation into the cause of the accident.

ENDS.