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FEMALE LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS DEMONSTRATES STRENGTH AS THEY LEAD OPERATIONS TO PROMOTE SAFETY ON THE ROAD AND THE COMMUNITIES

Female law enforcement officers from different enforcement units demonstrated their show of strength when they mounted a multi-disciplinary operation to ensure compliance on the road and fighting crime in the province.

The road block was conducted this morning on the N3 Mariannhill, which was attended by the MEC for Transport, Community Safety and Liaison, Sipho Hlomuka with female commanders.

The operation was conducted by integrated female members of the Road Traffic Inspectorate (RTI), South African Police Services (SAPS), eThekwini Metro and Road Traffic Infringement Agency (RTIA).

This operation is part of the on-going enforcement roadblocks led by females as part of commemorating Women's Month. Many strides were made in promoting a safer road environment this month and building safer communities with SAPS operations led by female officers.

In today's operation well over 55 RTI officers were deployed and more than 80 vehicles were stopped with various changes issued.

This multi-disciplinary operation is a build up to the Women in Transport and Law Enforcement Dialogue, which will be hosted by MEC Hlomuka this afternoon at 17h00 at the Olive Convention Centre in Durban. The dialogue will be addressed by amongst others, the Premier of KwaZulu-Natal Nomusa Dube–Ncube.

Commenting on the sidelines of the roadblock, MEC Hlomuka, said it is high time that women are also recognized and be given enough space to operate in the enforcement fraternity.

"It is inspiring to see female officers leading such successful operations. We salute them for their dedication and hard work in ensuring that KwaZulu-Natal is safe on the road and in our communities. We would like to see more women being given more responsibilities and leadership roles within the enforcement fraternity. This means women in enforcement have the responsibility of ensuring that KwaZulu-Natal is safe. In the two departments (Transport and Community Safety and Liaison) we have achieved and surpassed the 50

percent women representation in management. As this government we will continue reaffirming the role of women in strategic areas of work," said Hlomuka.

Ends.