



**KWAZULU-NATAL PROVINCE**

**TRANSPORT**  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

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## **Media Release**

**Sunday, 30 October 2022**

### **MEC HLOMUKA EXPRESSES UTTER DISGUST AT IRRESPONSIBLE DRIVERS AS YET ANOTHER TAXI CRASH CLAIMS SEVEN PEOPLE IN ESTCOURT**

As the October Transport Month Campaign is drawing to its conclusion, the MEC for Transport, Community Safety and Liaison, Sipho Hlomuka, has expressed his utter disgust as road users continue to disregard traffic violations.

This follows yet another fatal crash on Wembezi road in Estcourt last night, which left seven (7) people dead and others sustaining serious injuries. The survivors were taken to a local hospital.

This head-on collision happened around 19h45 between a minibus taxi and a Toyota Corolla. The minibus taxi is believed to have been travelling from Estcourt town to Wembezi township.

Upon impact both vehicles caught fire. A multi-disciplinary team of law enforcement is currently investigating the cause of the accident. Cases of culpable homicide are also being investigated.

Paramedics, South African Police Services and Road Traffic Inspectorate have had to work until the late hours of the day to clear the scene.

Reacting to this painful accident, MEC Hlomuka, called on road users to respect the traffic laws, saying everyone has a duty to save human lives on the road.

"This is yet another painful accident in the province. Sadly, this is happening as we are closing the October Transport Month, where we are still going to take stock of our road safety and enforcement campaigns. The team of investigators is currently working on the details of what transpired resulting to this tragic accident. We call on road users to take responsibility and save lives on the road. We also wish to send our heartfelt condolences to all the affected families," remarked MEC Hlomuka.

The Department is going to give a full account of the October Transport Month Campaign, which was characterized by massive enforcement operations and the visibility. The majority of these campaigns were led by the members of the Provincial Executive Council, which is indication that government is taking the issue of safety on the road very seriously.

Hlomuka said government and stakeholders will build from the successes of the October Transport Month to prepare for the Festive Season Safety Campaign.



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"This is no time to surrender or retreat. We will soldier on emboldened by the progress we made during the October Transport Month Campaign. Ours is to make sure that we deliver a safer festive season period. All law enforcement agencies are joining hands to prepare for the festive season and take the fight against lawlessness to another level. We want to make sure that people are safe in communities and are safe on the road," concludes Hlomuka.

ENDS