UPDATE: A doctor, three nurses, and a councillor are among the 66 motorists arrested last night and this morning in Port Shepstone bringing the number to 110: Duma is encouraged by the public support of RTI's efforts aimed at cleaning up our road networks

Media and Public Statement by the MEC for Transport and Human Settlements, Siboniso Duma

28 September 2025

Inkosi Mhlabunzima Maphumulo House: This morning I offered to issue a formal statement with final figures of drunk driving arrests in Port Shepstone.

From the 55 motorists arrested by 00h15 this morning, the figure has increased to 66.

On Friday and Saturday morning, 44 drunk motorists were arrested. This means that the total number of arrests this weekend in Port Shepstone alone is now 110.

The total number of drunk and driving arrests since 15 August is now 399.

Disappointingly, a doctor, three nurses from the Port Shepstone Regional Hospital, and a councillor are among the 66 motorists arrested.

The doctor has been charged for escaping from lawful detention. He faces a fine or six to ten years in jail if found guilty.

A policeman from the Port Shepstone Police Station escaped from lawful detention. He will be charged for escaping from lawful detention.

In particular, health professionals, through their conduct, should display incredible understanding of the burden on our healthcare system caused by alcohol-related road accidents.

More than 60% of trauma cases are linked to horrific road accidents.

Available public records show that the estimated socio-economic cost of road accidents a year is about R164 billion, or about 3.4% of the country's GDP.

For the 2022/23 financial year, the Road Accident Fund (RAF) paid out R22 billion in loss of income claims.

We wish to salute our highly efficient, energetic, and dedicated RTI team; traffic officers from Ray Nkonyeni Local Municipality and members of the South African Police Service from the Port Shepstone Police Station. Collectively, the team managed to save innocent lives and prevent the destruction of families.

I have mandated the team to be firm and remove from our road network irresponsible and reckless motorists who are creating orphans, widows, and people living with disabilities.

We are encouraged by the public support of our efforts. Each day, we are realizing that the majority of 12.5 million people in KwaZulu-Natal are prepared to unite and isolate this tiny minority of individuals who drink and drive.

Ends

Issued by the MEC for Transport and Human Settlements

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