

UPDATE: The death toll from Empangeni horrific road accident has increased to nine. Duma releases the names of the victims after consultation with families.

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

13 May 2025

Inkosi Mhlabunzima Maphumulo House: The past few days have been very difficult for the families of the victims of the horrific road accident in Empangeni.

Sadly, yesterday afternoon, during our consultation with families in Ward 03 and Ward 02 in Umtubatuba Local Municipality, another church member succumbed to severe injuries and passed away at Ngwelezane Hospital.

As indicated on Sunday, a team of senior managers from the department and our chaplains have been meeting with families. These consultations are continuing.

No words will be adequate to comfort families, relatives, neighbours and the church.

Only God will give them strength and comfort during this difficult period.

As we prepare for the funeral service, we are working jointly with the Road Accident Fund and the Department of Social Development.

In view of the fact that most of the victims were breadwinners, efforts will be made to ensure that all processes are followed to ease the burden on the families.

Our Provincial Chaplain Apostle Viva Mpungose, the District Chaplain Beatrice Nhleko and local religious leaders are leading prayers in support of the following victims:-

1. Ms Sarafina Makhosi Magwaza (57) (Female)
2. Ms Celiwe Priscilla Zikhali 55 (Female)
3. Ms Dudu Octavia Mthembu (52) (Female)
4. Ms Winnie Nobuhle Mkhwanazi (52) (Female)
5. Ms Cabangile Zodwa Mavundla (52) Female
6. Ms Qhamukile Zanele Khumalo (40) Female
7. Mr Sihle Ndamase (24) Female
8. Mr Mphikiseni Bongani Sithole (57) Male
9. Bongani Ndlovu (46) Male

May the departed souls rest in peace.

Finally, we commend izinduna and local councilors for working jointly in support of the families.

In particular, the Chief Whip of Umkhanyakude District Municipality Cllr Siya Khumalo, Cllr Ntokozo Mlungwana of Ward 03 and Cllr Zulu of Ward 02.

Ends

Issued by the MEC for Transport and Human Settlements

Enquiries

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