

38 motorists were arrested for drunk driving in Newcastle over the past two days—24 were arrested last night. This includes a motorist who offered interest free loan of up to R500 000 - another one was caught alerting other motorists and using a cellphone while driving: Duma reminds members of the public this Transport Month that excessive drinking and driving severely degrades a driver's ability to control a vehicle, which results in fatal accidents

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

04 October 2026

Inkosi Mhlabunzima Maphumulo House: Our energized Road Traffic Inspectorate team has arrested 38 motorists for drunk driving in Newcastle over the past two days.

A total of 24 motorists were arrested last night, including a driver who was caught talking on the cellphone and alerting other motorists about the roadblock.

Regulation 308A of the National Road Traffic Act bans holding a mobile or communication device in your hands or against your body while driving. This includes being stopped at a roadblock with the engine running.

Another motorist, a bank consultant who claimed to be a finance mastermind, offered interest-free loans of up to R500 000 to RTI, and the team declined the offer politely and asked him a question #NenzaniLaEzweni.

The profile of 24 motorists arrested last night, Saturday is as follows:

- 1 Lawyer Assistant.
- 2 Teachers.
- 2 Nurses.
- 1 Bank consultant - claimed to be a finance mastermind and offered interest-free loans of up to R500 000 to RTI
- 1 Finance Manager.
- 2 Foreign nationals.
- 1 Merchandiser.
- 1 Raw Technician.
- 1 Truck driver.
- Fleet manager
- 1 x Technician
- 1x UKZN student
- 1x Pensioner

We remind members of the public this Transport Month that excessive drinking and driving severely degrades a driver's mental process of thinking, understanding, and reacting. It is for these reasons motorists who drive under the influence of alcohol are likely to be involved in fatal road accidents.

These motorists were removed from our road networks before they could kill innocent people and in the process create orphans and widows.

Ends

Issued by the MEC for Transport and Human Settlements

Enquiries

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