

Blood test results of some of the 24 motorists arrested for drunk driving in Umhlanga Rocks are back, and many have been found guilty: Duma hails RTI for working efficiently with SAPS, Durban Metro Police, Department of Health, as well as the Department of Justice and Constitutional Development (DoJCD)

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

10 February 2026

Inkosi Mhlabunzima Maphumulo House: We wish to thank Road Traffic Inspectorate for their high level of efficiency and professionalism in ensuring a successful conviction of motorists who were arrested for drunk driving.

Since 15 August 2025, we have arrested more than 4400 motorists for drunk driving through #NenzaniLaEzweni Operation.

Blood test results are returning positive, and this is crucial evidence for a successful prosecution.

Importantly, we wish to single out SAPS, the Department of Justice and Constitutional Development (DoJCD) and Durban Metro Police, who are working with RTI in processing drunk driving cases.

Seebran Prydeshan, is part of 24 motorists who were arrested for drunk driving in Umhlanga Rocks—around the Oceans Mall in September last year.

He has been found guilty in the Durban Magistrates Court. Our case was bolstered by blood alcohol analysis, which indicated that he consumed too much alcohol and, in the process, exceeded the legal limit.

We will be releasing more names and information as we move forward.

We thank the Department of Health and eThekwini Municipality's Health Unit for deploying nurses who are legally authorized to draw blood samples from suspected drunk drivers.

This is in compliance with Section 37(2)(a) of the Criminal Procedure Act 51/1977.

Importantly, I have mandated the newly appointed Head of the Department of Transport Zibusiso Dlamini to strengthen the road safety plan with a clear focus on trucks. Last weekend we buried 17 people who died in accidents involving trucks.

By and large, our road networks, which are being constructed, rehabilitated, and repaired, should not be playgrounds for irresponsible drivers.

We must remove all these elements that are costing our country a fortune.

As we stated in the past, road accidents cost the South African economy over R164 billion annually, equivalent to 3.4% of the country's Gross Domestic Product (GDP).

In addition, the Road Accident Fund (RAF) paid out over R45.6 billion in claims in the 2023-2024 financial year.

Finally, we cannot afford to have families destroyed by irresponsible drivers. RTI will continue to act decisively.

Ends

Issued by the MEC for Transport and Human Settlements

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