

## **Fraudulent roadworthy certificates for scholar transport: Duma has sanctioned an investigation**

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

13 February 2026

Inkosi Mhlabanzima Maphumulo House: I wish to announce that we are launching an investigation into what appears to be the fraudulent issuing of a roadworthy certificate to an unroadworthy minibus taxi involved in private scholar transport.

The vehicle legal domicile address is in Pietermaritzburg but it obtained a roadworthy certificate in the Eastern Cape.

This minibus taxi was intercepted in a highly driven intelligence #NenzaniLaEzweni Operation executed by both the RTI and Shanela teams. In addition to being overloaded, the vehicle was transporting 23 learners instead of 16.

It underwent a Certificate of Fitness (COF) inspection on 13 January 2026 in the Eastern Cape but the vehicle legal domicile address is in Pietermaritzburg.

How is it possible that the vehicle's condition deteriorated so significantly within just 26 days?

The investigation will seek to establish who granted a license and operating permit for this minibus taxi and what type of due diligence was conducted before issuing these approvals?

Last year, we announced our focus on strengthening legislation governing the taxi and scholar transport industry, with clear provisions on driver vetting, vehicle standards, and operational oversight.

The Road Traffic Inspectorate and Shanela are currently enforcing stricter compliance across all corners of the province.

Ends

Issued by the MEC for Transport and Human Settlements

Enquiries

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