

Taxi Driver in Newcastle was arrested after trying to run away on foot: Duma says the highly trained and energized RTI team nabbed him easily

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

29 December 2025

Inkosi Mhlabunzima Maphumulo House: #NenzaniLaEzweni Operation is a resounding success and very effective.

This morning we are observing many visitors returning home after spending quality time in various parts of KwaZulu-Natal.

This morning between 6am and 7am we recorded more than 600 cars passing through the Mariannhill Toll Plaza.

Throughout the festive season we are ensuring the safety of national and international visitors on our roads.

Equally, we are prioritizing the safety of the people of this province who are using our road networks.

The energized Road Traffic Inspectorate team is ensuring visibility today.

We warn motorists of Zero Tolerance against anyone who is violating the National Road Traffic Act.

Nobody is capable of evading RTI as they execute #NenzaniLaEzweni Operation.

The arrests in Newcastle yesterday afternoon is a clear indication of the RTI No Nonsense approach:-

- 32 - Friday evening to Saturday morning
- 36 - Saturday evening to Sunday morning
- 32 - Sunday afternoon

Total is 100.

Those arrested are the following:-

- 1 Traditional healer
- 1 Phlebotomist
- 1 Policeman
- 2 Minibus Taxi drivers
- 2 Teachers

By 18h00 RTI had already arrested 29 motorists, including a taxi driver.

They are facing drunk driving charges. A taxi driver tried to run away on foot but was quickly cornered by our energetic team.

Three unruly individuals who tried to stop RTI from arresting drunk motorists were quickly arrested.

We thank the SAPS for the enduring partnership. We also appreciate our working relationship with Newcastle Traffic Department and the Department of Health.

Ends

Issued by the MEC for Transport and Human Settlements

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