

Truth and Reconciliation of a special kind for fraudulent driver's license holders: Duma implementing drastic measures to end carnage on our roads with the elite Transport and Traffic Inspection Unit. The unit is intensifying investigations into fraud associated with the issuing of driver's licenses.

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

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Inkosi Mhlabunzima Maphumulo House: To dismantle and root out a criminal syndicate that is behind the bribery and corruption associated with the issuing of driver's licenses, we are exploring the possibility of having a truth and reconciliation of a special kind.

The aim is to encourage those in possession of a license obtained fraudulently to point out the culprits. We will act harshly—name and shame these individuals—whether they are in private driving schools or in the driving and testing centers managed by municipalities or the department.

Importantly, there are honest and hardworking civil servants in our centers that must be protected against these rogue elements. Critically, we commend our examiner at the Umkondeni Driving and Testing Centre whose vigilance resulted in the arrest of a learner and instructor from a private driving school last week.

As indicated last week, our revived Transport and Traffic Inspection Unit (TTIU) is intensifying underground and intelligence-driven activities under the auspices of the #NenzaniLaEzweni Operations. The corruption playbook used by these syndicates has given us a sense of the rot in the system.

The TTIU is also working with the Road Traffic Management Corporation (RTMC) National Traffic Anti-Corruption Unit (NTACU) to accelerate investigations into collusion between driving schools and testing officials.

There are officials who are under investigations and who will be sentenced in connection with fraud and bribery. There are court dates set for hearings. These will be published to demonstrate transparency.

In particular, our investigations show an examiner taking bribes to pass applicants without proper testing.

We will audit all tests, and if we find evidence of fraud or bribery in issuing licenses, they will be revoked. We want competent drivers on our roads, not chance takers who will endanger other road users.

Finally, the Head of the Department Zibusiso Dlamini is already leading efforts to ensure efficiency and integrity in our driving and testing centres, starting with Umkondeni.

Ends.

Issued by the MEC for Transport and Human Settlements

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