

MEDIA STATEMENT

To : All Media
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Attention: News Editors/ Transport Reporter/ PR WIRES

Motorists charged for driving defective vehicles

Pretoria: In an effort to clamp down on un-roadworthy vehicles, the National Traffic Police (NTP) has charged scores of motorists for driving vehicles with defects that make them unsafe to be operated on the road.

In law-enforcement operations conducted over the long weekend in Gauteng, the NTP stopped and checked more than 5000 vehicles for roadworthiness.

A total of 188 vehicles were found to have defects that make them unsafe to be operated on a public road. These included smooth tyres, broken windscreens, and defective headlamps.

Vehicle factors are among the three main factors responsible to accidents on the roads. Other factors are human factors (this includes speed, reckless and drunken driving) and environmental factors (this includes the quality of the road, sharp bends, invisible road signs etc.).

A total of 100 motorists were charged for driving without a licence or the public driver's permit. Nineteen vehicles were discontinued while 20 drivers were arrested for drunken driving.

Most driving offences were committed by drivers of sedans followed by minibus and light delivery vehicles. Out of a total 388 offences recorded over the long weekend, 135 were committed by drivers of sedans, followed by drivers on minibuses with 125 offences and drivers of light delivery vehicles accounted for 65 offences. Drives of heavy motor vehicles and busses accounted for the least number of offences.

The Road Traffic Management Corporation would like to reiterate that motorists must keep their vehicle in a roadworthy condition at all times to avoid crashes and deaths on our road. The need to respect all the rules of the road including driving within the allowed speed limit and avoid intoxicating drinks remains paramount in all effort to reduce carnages on the road.

Law-enforcement operations are being strengthened over the weekends as this has been identified as a period in which accidents increase. An analysis of road crash data shows that crashes are high on Thursday, Friday, Saturday, Saturday, Sunday and Monday.

Issued by the Road Traffic Management Corporation

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