



## **PRESS RELEASE**

**To : All Media**  
**Issued : Wednesday, 06 December 2017**  
**Attention: News Editors / Transport Reporters / PR Wires**

### **Alcohol; Speed and vehicle fitness headaches on the road.**

Scores of motorists have been arrested on South African roads for drunken driving and speeding since the start of the festive season.

Transport Minister Joe Maswanganyi launched the festive season Arrive Alive campaign in Bela-Bela in Limpopo yesterday. An overloaded minibus travelling to Zimbabwe with smooth tyres was impounded during the launch on the N1.

Meanwhile the Road Traffic Management Corporation is investigating a major crash that occurred in the Eastern Cape this morning. A Minibus patient transport vehicle overturned on N6 between Queenstown and Jamestown Eastern Cape killing 6 patients including an 8 month old baby and the driver. The exact cause of the crash is subject to the ongoing investigations.

A total of 126 motor vehicles have so far been discontinued after being found with various defects which make them unfit to be on the road.

More than 160 drivers have been arrested for drunken driving and five motorists have been caught driving at excessive speeds. The worst speedster was stopped on the N2 near Winkelspruit in KwaZulu Natal.

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Board of Directors: Mr Z Majavu CD(SA) (Chairman), Ms P Mathabathe, Ms T Mdlulwa, Ms D Ewertse, Mr T Kgomo,  
Prof. M Mphahlele, Ms T Thankge, Dr E Thebe, Mr J Motsatsing\*

Chief Executive Officer: Advocate MS Msibi

Acting Company Secretary: Ms S Petse

\*Departmental Representative

## Alcohol; Speed and vehicle fitness headaches on the road.

The rainy weather is posing a major risk factor to travellers in some parts of the country in this period. Of concern is that many motorists are not adjusting speed in consideration of wet road conditions.

Travellers are advised to plan their journeys carefully and avoid last minute rush and late night driving.

Statistics from the previous festive season show that road accidents increase in the evenings between 19H00 and 24H00 and in the morning between 04H00 and 08H00. Most accidents occur over the weekends.

Routes that pose the highest risks and built up areas - i.e. suburbs, townships and settlements - have been identified for intensified policing to reduce pedestrian and driver fatalities.

The fitness of public transport and overloading will also receive close attention to reduce the number of pedestrian deaths.

Traffic authorities have taken these factors into consideration in their planning and will be working around the clock to ensure traffic officer visibility and enforcement of the law.

Motorists are urged to play their part in reducing road crashes during this period by obeying the rules of the road and avoiding alcohol, speed and reckless driving.

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