

PRESS RELEASE

To : All News Editors
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Attention : News Reporters / Transport Reporters / Newswires

**RTMC CALLS FOR HEAVY SENTENCE OF DURBAN TAXI DRIVE**

The Road Traffic Management Corporation (RTMC) welcomes the arrest of a driver after three schoolchildren were run over by a taxi in Newlands East, Durban this morning.

The RTMC commends the police for their quick response and ensuring that this driver is held accountable for his irresponsible and unacceptable conduct.

Reckless and negligent drivers on South Africa's roads kill far too many innocent people. Statistics show that pedestrians are the most vulnerable road users accounting for 38% of all road traffic crash victims. Kwa-Zulu Natal is one of the provinces with the highest number of fatalities.

We call on the investigating officers and prosecutors to oppose bail and ensure that he remains in custody for at least seven days. The courts should give him the harshest punishment possible including the cancellation of his driving licence.

It is alleged that the taxi driver skipped a red traffic light before colliding with the schoolchildren. A fourth girl is in critical condition in hospital.

The RTMC sends its heartfelt condolences to the families and friends of the school children and wishes the injured ones a speedy recovery.

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ISSUED BY: THE ROAD TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT CORPORATION (RTMC)

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