



Road Traffic
Management Corporation

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The Road Traffic Management Corporation (RTMC)
is an Agency of The Department of Transport and a
Member of the United Nations Road Safety Collaboration

PRESS RELEASE

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

SYNDICATE INVOLVED IN ALLEGED FRAUDULENT REGISTRATION OF IMPORTED SECOND-HAND VEHICLES BUSTED

PRETORIA: A total of twelve suspects have been arrested today in a pre-dawn swoop in three Eastern Cape towns as authorities clamp down on a syndicate allegedly involved in the alleged fraudulent registration of imported second-hand vehicles.

This followed a year-long initiated investigation by the National Traffic Anti-Corruption Unit (NTACU) of the Road Traffic Management Corporation which identified hundreds of imported second-hand vehicles which had been fraudulently introduced into the national traffic information system (Natis) as re-builds.

A task teams comprising of members of NTACU, the Eastern Cape branch of Special Investigations Unit and the South Police Service anti-corruption unit, crime intelligence, vehicle crime investigation unit conducted further investigations and identified key suspects involved in the syndicate.

It has been established that a syndicate involving foreign nationals, the Eastern Cape department of transport help desk officials, South African Police Service members and vehicle testing stations allegedly colluded in an elaborate scheme where imported



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Board of Directors: Mr Z Majavu CD(SA) (Chairman), Ms P Manqele, 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
Company Secretary: Ms S Petse
**Departmental Representative*

second-hand vehicles destined for neighbouring countries were being fraudulently sold and registered in South Africa.

It is alleged that the syndicate colluded to fraudulently produce official documents such as traffic registers, police clearance certificates and roadworthy certificates to enable the vehicles to be introduced on the Natis as rebuilds.

Search and seizure operations were conducted today in the Eastern Cape towns of East London, King Williamstown and Komgha where documents and computers were confiscated for further investigation. Members of the task team have also seized more than 400 vehicles.

Twelve suspects, including three Eastern Cape department of transport help desk officials, two SAPS members from the vehicle clearance office, one official from the Komgha registering authority, one examiner from a privately-own vehicle testing station and four middlemen (runners) were arrested and are expected to appear at Komgha magistrate court for bail application on Friday.

More arrests are expected.

Members of the public who have information about the sale and registration of imported second-hand vehicles are urged to assist the investigation by contacting the National Traffic Anti-Corruption Unit 0861 400 800 on or email ntacu@rtmc.co.za. All information will be treated with the strictest confidentiality.

ENDS

ISSUED BY: THE ROAD TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT CORPORATION (RTMC)

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