

11/04/18 TMA Pg 7 Desd TM ROS

# Drunk drivers nabbed

## Drunk driving is one major cause of accidents and fatalities on provincial and national roads

ELFAS TORERAI

TRAFFIC cops arrested a number of drunk drivers in their zero tolerance to lawlessness on provincial roads since the Easter weekend.

In Bojanala district alone, 31 motorists were nabbed for driving under the influence.

Drunken driving is one of the major causes of accidents and fatalities on provincial and national roads, particularly during the busy holiday seasons.

The number of arrests increased as traffic cops swooped on speeding motorists. Speed is another factor accounting for accidents and deaths on the roads.

In Mooiooi, a 26-year-old man was caught clocking 146km/h. It was double trouble for him after cops established that the vehicle he was driving was reported stolen.

All those arrested appeared at various courts in the province but traffic authorities expressed satisfaction at the conduct of cops.

Community safety and transport management MEC Mpho Motlhabane said traffic cops had shown commitment and hard work in saving the lives of innocent people on the province's roads.

"Our officers did a sterling job during the Easter holidays and we commend them for their commitment and hard work," Motlhabane said.

He said bad motorists made it difficult to reduce the rate of accidents and fatalities on the roads. "We do have compliant road users but their innocence on



**FULL OF PRAISE:** Community safety and transport management MEC Dr Mpho Motlhabane says traffic cops show commitment and hard work in saving lives on the province's roads.

the road is affected as a result of those irresponsible ones who decide to be on the wrong side of the law.

"Many families have gone through the pain of death, left orphans and widows because of silly mistakes of people who don't value their lives. However, we will not relent until there are no longer incidents and fatalities on our roads."

Together with his management team, Motlhabane was in the thick of things as he interacted with road users, distributing pamphlets to drivers and commuters alike. About five crashes and two fatalities were recorded during this Easter weekend and Motlhabane said the ideal

situation was where there were no accidents or fatalities at all.

"We continue to experience a high number of accidents and fatalities during busy seasons and this leads to the government losing billions of rands that could be utilised in service delivery, hence we initiate a positive change of attitude on our roads.

"We also call upon long distance drivers to rest every two hours or 200km of driving, because fatigue is one of the factors contributing immensely to fatalities," Motlhabane said. Recent analysis from the traffic authorities show that the most contributory factors to the

loss of lives on the roads were due to reckless and negligent driving, speeding, drunken driving, unroadworthy vehicles, driver fatigue and bad driver behaviour. "If all road users can obey the rules and comply, it will save the country from death pains. Road safety is our responsibility, we should always stick to the speed limit, stay away from drunken driving, overloading and the usage of cellphones while driving and further make sure that the vehicle is roadworthy. If we can all avoid being on the wrong side of the law, SA will be a road carnage free country," he said.

*elfast@thenewage.co.za*

11/04/18 TNA  
DIKELEDI MOLOBELA

THE family of two youngsters, Karabo Malapane and Resego Khumalo who were allegedly killed by a police officer in a hit and run, have complained that they are being intimidated into withdrawing the case.

This is despite police in the province saying the case was receiving attention. The 13-year-old boys were riding a bicycle to go to buy ice cream at a garage on the R510 road in Sandfontein near Rustenburg when a speeding BMW hit and killed them instantly.

The horrifying story of the two boys surfaced on social media when the uncle

## pg 1 MDSAPS Neg Family wait to hear fate of hit-and-run cop

of the boys spoke on how the case had been stuck and no one had appeared in court for the death of the boys in March.

A month later, the family claims that they have been kept in the dark and no one has been charged.

The uncle, Reginald Motsamai, said they were alerted to the accident about 2pm that Sunday. "My aunt, along with my parents, arrived at the scene of the accident to find the dead bodies of their children lying on the side of the road.

And the person who killed them was nowhere to be seen.

"The police came and did their accident reports, loaded the boys' corpses into their vans and took them to Phokeng mortuary. A few minutes after the cops left while my mother was washing my nephews' blood off the tar road, a tow truck arrived and they loaded up the silver BMW and left."

Motsamai said the family went through so much pain and trouble. "The SAPS is failing us. We recently

discovered that the Silver BMW driver who killed the children is a SAPS member and his colleagues have been calling and harassing my aunt, a widow, who just buried her son.

"We don't know if the driver has been



**Sebatla Mokgwabone**

charged on if he has or will appear in court," he said.

Motsamai said they suspect there was foul play going on with this case. Police confirmed yesterday that the alleged perpetrator was a police officer working at the SAPS Academy in Limpopo.

"The said a privately-owned vehicle was driven by a police official. An investigation into the matter is under way and a warning statement has been obtained from the driver.

"The last witness's statement was obtained last week," Brig Sebatla Mokgwabone said.

In contrast to claims by the family that the case was stagnant and threats were made to have it withdrawn, police said that the docket would soon be taken to prosecution for a decision and at this stage no undue delay or below par investigation had been detected regarding this case.

Mokgwabone said that the complainants, the deceased's parents, were advised to feel free to talk to the cluster commander of Rustenburg, Maj-Gen Adams, in case of any dissatisfaction.

[dikeledit@thezeenews.co.za](mailto:dikeledit@thezeenews.co.za)

11/01/18 THE IMA Pg 7 Hawks Pos.

# Four Jouberton men arrested for dagga, Mandrax

ELFAS TORERAI

FOUR men were arrested for dealing in dagga illegally and possessing Mandrax tablets in Jouberton township, Klerksdorp, on Monday morning.

The accused were netted during a raid by the Hawks' serious organised crime

unit. Hawks provincial spokesperson Tlangelani Rikhotso said the four men were aged between 29 and 40.

"Information was received from the community alleging the continuous dealing in drugs by certain individuals around Jouberton. Upon arrival at Ext 22 location in Klerksdorp, three sus-

pects were arrested at their apartment for possession of Mandrax to the value of R1260. Further information led the Hawks members to Ext 24 at one of the suspect's rental apartments where more than R130 000 worth of dagga was seized," she said.

Rikhotso said the accused face

charges of illegal dealing in dagga and possession of Mandrax.

Hawks head in the province, Maj-Gen Linda Mbana said the operation leading to the arrest of the four was another example of how the community works hand in glove with them.

[elfast@theneuwege.co.za](mailto:elfast@theneuwege.co.za)

The Citizen - Pags-Hawkes - 11/04/18 - Neg

# Daring heist at gold mine

## MILITARY-STYLE: HAWKS SPOKESPERSON SAYS IT WAS A PROFESSIONAL JOB

» The value of the haul at Kalgold was in the region of R6 million.

**Amanda Watson**

**K**algold mine near Setlagole, North West province, was the scene of a daring military-style robbery in which more than R6 million worth of unrefined gold was stolen in one fell swoop in the early hours of yesterday morning.

At least eight men with military rifles are believed to have stormed the tiny brick security hut at the entrance to the mine. The isolated mine is part of the Harmony group and lies on the

Ni8 between Vryburg and Mahikeng in the Ngaka Modiri Molema district municipality.

Harmony spokesperson Sihle Maake said: "Security officials at the outside of the entrance were ambushed and tied up, the plant security was called upon for backup but when they responded they were also ambushed and tied up.

"The intruders then proceeded to the plant where they gained access to the smelt house by blasting open the doors with explosives," Maake said.

According to her, gold had been left in the oven to cool down overnight.

"The gold which was locked in the oven to cool down was stolen. The robbers then fled with one of

the mine's security vehicles. Fortunately, all our plant personnel are safe and accounted for, and we're still investigating," Maake said.

"We are estimating around 12kg of unrefined gold ingots were stolen."

North West Hawks spokesperson Captain Tlangelani Rikhotso added that the robbers also used one of the mine's vehicles to escape.

"It is unclear if the suspects have military training. However they appear to be professional," Rikhotso

said.

The gold does have specific markings which Harmony is keeping under wraps for security reasons at this stage.

"Bullion is pretty hard to move

on the black market but we do know some of the other gold mining companies who have been having some issues, but very isolated incidents," noted Maake.

The mine's stolen vehicle was recovered after being dumped on the side of a nearby road.

It's not the first time Kalgold mine has been targeted.

In 2015, six people were arrested on a charge of conspiracy to commit robbery at the mine.

Acting on information, police monitored the mine entrance and when a white Ford Courier and a Mercedes-Benz van arrived at the gate, as per the intelligence received by the police, members of the Hawks and Tactical Response teams swooped.

Gunfire was exchanged, causing the suspects to flee. Two were immediately captured while the dog unit arrested the other four.

- [amandaw@citizen.co.za](mailto:amandaw@citizen.co.za)

