



Newly trained traffic officers are ready to keep law and order on Bokone Bophirima roads
Photos by Mpho Bllwane



MEC Motlhabane at the Klerksdorp taxi rank to encourage taxi drivers to observe road rules and safety this festive season

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Motlhabane launches festive season road safety campaign

Nthusang Lefafa

Motorists who find themselves on the wrong side of the law in Bokone Bophirima have been given a strong warning that they will face the full might of the law. To kick-start its festive season road safety campaign, Bokone Bophirima's Department of Community Safety and Transport Management was launched through a roadblock on the N12 and a visit to the Klerksdorp Long Distance Taxi Rank.

During the first roadblock on the N12 just outside Klerksdorp, 245 vehicles were stopped, 44 fines for various offences were issued, five warnings were issued and a lady was arrested for transporting a large quantity of dagga.

MEC for Community Safety and Transport Management, Dr Mkgantshang Mpho Motlhabane, told those in attendance that the department will not allow law enforcement officials to be intimidated by motorists and he encouraged all those who will be travelling to various destinations to abide by the rules of the

any form of behavior where our police will feel threatened when they have to carry out their duties. It is important that all sections of society respect police officials as they are the custodians of the law," Motlhabane said.

He also gave the public some safety tips to use over the holiday period. "It

night so they can be easily visible. The department said it would also be focusing on rural roads because the province is predominantly rural and a large number of people will be making their way home to villages.

Roads that are going to be prioritised by law enforcement agencies include

During the roadblock on Wednesday, a motorist who spoke on condition of anonymity said it is good that police are conducting these roadblocks because that way, they would ensure that holidaymakers arrive safely at their destinations.

"We are happy that police are showing visibility as criminals like to take chances during this period. However, it is important that police show visibility throughout the year so that nobody will be tempted to break the law," the motorist said.

"Provincial Deputy Commissioner of the South African Police Service (SAPS) Major General Patrick Asaneng, explained that police, traffic officials, immigration officers and the South African Revenue Services (SARS) staff will be working together during various operations.

"We are happy that police are showing visibility as criminals like to take chances during this period. However, it is important that police show visibility throughout the year so that nobody will be tempted to break the law,"

the N14, N18 and the Lichtenburg-Mafikeng Road (R503) as it is still under construction.

Motlhabane wished all those who live in the province a happy festive season and encouraged communities to obey

is important that you buckle up at all times, don't drink and drive, rest at the necessary stops and make sure that you are carrying your drivers' licence at all times."

Pedestrians were also encouraged to

"Police will be maintaining a high visibility and we are sending a strong warning to those who are tempted to break the law that they will end up behind bars. During this period we experience a high rate of alcohol abuse, robberies at malls and domestic crimes. Police will be focusing on central business districts because this is where people go to do their festive shopping." General Asaneng

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MOTORISTS WARNED: MEC for community safety and transport Mpho Motlhabane.

NTHUSANG LEFAFA

OFFENDERS on the road during the festive season will face the full wrath of the justice system.

This warning was given at the launch of the festive season road safety campaign in Klerksdorp on Wednesday.

Community safety and transport management officials and the police held a roadblock on the N12 visited and the Klerksdorp Long Distance Taxi Rank as part of the launch.

During the first roadblock on the N12 just outside Klerksdorp, 245 vehicles were stopped, 44 fines for various offences were handed out, five warnings were issued and a woman was arrested with a large quantity of dagga.

Department MEC Mpho Motlhabane said the department will not allow law enforcement officials to be intimidated by motorists.

"The department does not condone any form of behaviour where our police will feel threatened when they carry out their duties. It is important all sections of society respect police officials as they are the custodians of the law," Motlhabane said.

"It is important that you buckle up at all times, don't drink and drive, rest at the necessary stops and make sure that you are carrying your drivers' licence at all times."

Pedestrians were encouraged to wear reflective clothing at night.

The department said they will also be focusing on rural roads because the province is predominantly rural

and a large number of people will be making their way home which is mostly in remote areas.

Roads that are going to be prioritised by the department are the N14, N18 and the Lichtenburg-Mafikeng Road (R503) as it is still under construction.

Motlhabane wished all a happy festive season and encourages communities to obey the law and be safe at all times.

During the roadblock, a motorist who spoke on condition of anonymity said it is good that police are conducting doing these roadblocks because they ensure that holidaymakers arrive safely at their destinations.

"We are happy that police are showing visibility as criminals like to take chances during this period.

However, it is important that police show visibility throughout the year so that nobody will be tempted to break the law," the motorist said.

North West police deputy commissioner Maj-Gen Patrick Asaneng explained that the police, traffic officials, immigration officers, and the South African Revenue Services (SARS) will be working together during various operations.

"Police will be maintaining a high visibility and we are sending a strong warning to those who are tempted to break the law that they will end up behind bars. During this period we experience a high rate of alcohol abuse, robberies at malls and domestic crimes." The police will be focusing on CBD because this is where people go to do shopping. - Newsnote

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Card-skimming case highlights crime concerns

OBAKENG MAJE

POLICE in Taung have called on residents to be extra vigilant this festive season as the risk of card skimming incidents is said to be high.

This came in the wake of the ongoing bank card skimming case where three men from the Free State were nabbed after fleecing people of their hard-earned cash in Taung.

The three suspects Mojalefa Springkan, 30, Kgosana Tladi, 49, and David Mokonyane, 52, face fraud charges and their case was this week postponed to January 22.

The trio from Free State arrested two months ago by police's crime intelligence in partnership with Taung police station after receiving a tip-off.

The accused allegedly defrauded unsuspecting victims their hard-earned cash at the ATMs across Dr Ruth Mompati district. The investigating officer, WO Kagiso Phemelo told the court how the suspects were eventually arrested.

The suspects allegedly robbed another woman of her Sassa card at Pudimoe complex in Pudimoe location, near Taung.

The police followed them until Taung Mall where they were allegedly stopped and searched. The police found loads of various bank cards in their possession.

"The suspects were arrested and the police confiscated the vehicle that was used during the commission of crime. All three suspects have previous and pending fraud cases," Phemelo said.

National Prosecuting Agency regional spokesperson Frank Lesenyego said: "The case was postponed after the suspects obtained a new legal team.

"All three suspects were cross-examined except Kgosana Tladi who submitted his evidence through affidavit.

"The magistrate will make judgment immediately after heads of argument. We are adamant that the NPA has water-tight case against the suspects. They have previous convictions and others have pending cases."

People are urged to be alert during festive season. - Newsnote