



## MEDIA & COMMUNICATIONS

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### MEC Motlhabane Calls for Safety During this Festive Season

The Festive Season is one of the most challenging times for all Law Enforcements Agencies and Units of our government. It is during this time, when most people are travelling to different destinations; some going back home, some going for vacations and some visiting families, friends and beloved ones.

These vacation movements often result in the increase in traffic volumes on our roads thus demanding more law enforcement officers to be deployed to the National, Provincial and Municipal roads and as well as busy streets in the Bokone Bophirima province.

This untenable situation does not only dictates for visibility of law enforcement officers, in order to create a safer environment for the citizens of the province, but also, calls for citizen's to act responsibly as well as to take care of their lives and of those under their care.

In his address during the recent activation of the 2016 Festive Road Safety Operations held in Potchefstroom, Community Safety and Transport Management MEC, Dr Mokgantsang "Mpho" Motlhabane appealed to communities of Bokone Bophirima to take responsibility of their lives and create a safer environment for everyone.

"Our law enforcement agencies will embark on a number of operations across the province to strive to reduce the number of incidents, accidents and deaths on our roads, but we also need to remember that road safety begins with an individual.

We cannot afford to have a law enforcement officer in every road, every vehicle, every house or street of the province, therefore, we need to exercise restraint and self-disciplined as well as abide by the country's laws," said Motlhabane.

The campaign activation which was led by the Minister of Transport, Honourable Dipuo Peters, MEC Motlhabane and Tlokwe/Ventersdorp Executive Mayor, Councillor Kgotso Khumalo started with a joint JAWS, RTMC, SAPS

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and Tlokwe/Ventersdorp Municipality multipurpose roadblock where they engaged with motorists, commuters and road users in general. This was followed by visit the Potchefstroom taxi ranks and ended with interactions with motorists at the N12 Engen garage.

MEC said: "road safety continues to be an issue of great concern to the government and this calls for more efforts in a quest to curb incidents and accidents. Many lives are continuously lost as a result of road accidents. We are appealing to all road users including pedestrians and jay walkers to be vigilant and exercise caution on the roads. Our Bokone Bophirima province and the country at large cannot afford any more deaths caused by road accidents than it has already experienced," he said.

According to Dr. Motlhabane, law enforcement agencies in the province are prepared and ready for this season. "We are ready to make it impossible for those on the wrong side of the law to persist with this conduct.

If you try driving under the influence of alcohol, if you text while driving, if you do not fasten your seat belt or if you are doing anything that is not compliant to good road usage, just know that you will find yourself behind bars, locked up and removed from driving in our roads.

We are going to suffocate all criminals and defaulters to death," warned Motlhabane. If you owe any traffic fine you will not be spared. You better hurry up and pay or else you will be caught and made to pay the fine as well as the court charges right there and then.

#BeingSafeIsCool

#RIDEWISE

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