

MEDIA STATEMENT

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NW Detect A Serious Concern On Drunken Driving

MEC for Human Settlements Public Safety and Liaison in the North West Nono Maloyi has expressed serious concern about the number of drivers found under the influence of alcohol during the Jaws operations in Bojanala over the weekend. MEC Maloyi who led the operations throughout the weekend called on traffic authorities to put more focus on drunken driving, speed, drag racing, reckless driving and other serious offences that have been considered major cause of road fatalities.

More than 2708 motor vehicles were stopped during the joined jaws operations in Bojanala alone, over the past weekend. However drunken driving emerged as a major offence, which raised serious concerns to the MEC Nono Maloyi and the Department. About 17 motorists were arrested for drunken driving, since the beginning of the operations. According to Maloyi the department will have to put more focus on drunken driving and officers should have no mercy when dealing with drunken drivers who some of them are violent and resist arrest.

The operations registered about 187 traffic offences valued at R54 630 and impounded 15 vehicles and other discontinued during operations. Traffic officials further impounded a state vehicle for not having a route form. The department also raised concern about the new offences which are slowly mushrooming in the area. There has been a number of drag racing cases reported recently, and during the operations the department impounded one vehicle.

Meanwhile a minibus taxi was discontinued for overloading. The taxi which was driving between Rustenburg Town and Boitekong was found transporting 24 passengers instead of 16 as required by law.

“We have observed that most drunken driving cases are registered after eleven o'clock in the evening, and that encourages us to increase operations during the night. We will win this

fight and nothing will stop us to protect innocent lives on the roads of the province. I was part of this operations and have had a firsthand experience and observed the challenges our officers are faced with on daily basis," said Maloyi.

He further expressed a concern about the number of women found under the influence when calling on motorist to refrain from driving under the influence.

The Arrive Alive operation will continue throughout the festive season with major operations and road blocks throughout the major roads of the province. "We want to make the roads of this province safe to drive and walk on. We cannot let children to be orphaned, wives and husbands to be widows and widowers. I personally will be joining these operations to make sure that those in conflict with the law are arrested," concluded Maloyi.

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