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## **Media Statement**

## 22 August 2018

## MEC Ngomane welcomes the arrest of a top taxi boss

Mpumalanga Community Safety, Security and Liaison MEC Pat Ngomane welcomes the arrest of Mr. John Fanyana Sibanyoni who is the Chairperson of SANTACO in the province. Sibanyoni was arrested yesterday (21 August 2018) by the Traffic Intervention Unit (TIU) for speeding on the N4 Toll Road at about 12h26.

He was caught driving a Toyota Hilux LDV at 167 km/h on a 120 km/h zone near Alkmaar and was released on a R1000 bail at the Nelspruit Police Station yesterday (21 August 2018). He has appeared at the Nelspruit Magistrate Court today (22 August 2018).

MEC Ngomane says in the light of SANTACO Hlokomela road safety campaign, leaders such as Sibanyoni are supposed to be exemplary in the community and in the taxi business.

"Taxi associations employ drivers who are entrusted with the lives of commuters that they transport on regular basis, and it is the responsibility of each and every taxi owner or association to ensure that their drivers adhere to the rules of the road and are physically fit to be on the road.

"It however becomes difficult when those who are supposed to lead by example and instill discipline are the ones who break the law. We can never win this battle on our own as government, we need the buy in from all structures in the community," he says.

He adds that traffic officers will not fear to arrest anyone regardless of their statuses or positions as there is no one who is above the law.

Ends...

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