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Media Statement

19 July 2017

Eight lives claimed in two separate crashes

Mpumalanga Community Safety, Security and Liaison MEC Pat Ngomane sends condolences to the families of eight people who perished in two separate crashes yesterday [18 July 2017] and today [19 July 2017].

Yesterday [18 July 2017], three people were killed on the N4 Road between Komatipoort and Hectorspruit at about 14h30 when a truck and a Sport Utility Vehicle (SUV) collided head on. All three deceased were occupants of the SUV. One occupant of the SUV was airlifted to hospital with serious injuries while another was driven in an ambulance to hospital.

Today [19 July 2017] at about 11h15, five people died when a minibus taxi (Toyota Quantum) they were travelling in collided with a Tipper Truck. The five deceased include a four month old toddler. Two critical, two serious and five minor injured patients who were occupants of the minibus taxi were rushes to hospital.

MEC Ngomane says that the nature of crashes shows that there is negligence in some motorists. He says that the fight against road crashes is far from being won if there's still bad drivers on the road.

"Most crashes are caused by the bad decisions taken by motorists who are impatient disobedient. About 99 percent of crashes can be avoided if motorists can change their attitudes when behind the steering wheel or towards other motorists," he says.

He adds that law enforcers should be harsh when dealing with people who violate traffic rules.

Ends.

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