

MEDIA STATEMENT MEDIA STATEMENT

To : All Media
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Attention : News Editors/ Transport Reporter/ PR WIRES

11 Suspects Arrested for Selling Roadworthy Certificates Appear in Court

Following an arrest of eleven suspects for allegedly selling roadworthy certificates in Rustenburg, North West and Northam in Limpopo during joint operation by the Hawks, the National Anti-Corruption Unit from the RTMC and Crime Intelligence, nine suspects appeared in the Rustenburg Magistrate Court and were released on R2000 bail each. Also two suspects briefly made an appearance at the Northam Magistrate and they were granted R2000 bail each with the next court date scheduled for 11 May 2015.

The suspects were arrested after the National Traffic Anti-Corruption Unit received complaints from members of the community about corruption elements taking place at both municipal and private testing stations in and around Rustenburg. This led to a task team being established to investigate the corruption allegations which blatantly undermines all road safety initiatives as the suspects were selling roadworthy certificates without the vehicles being physically present for testing at the stations, or in some instances vehicles not being licenced and properly registered.

Advocate Makhosini Msibi, RTMC CEO stated that “ ***This threat impacts negatively on the road traffic sector in that, the ultimate victims are ordinary members of***

society who risk losing their lives due to the increase in a number of un-roadworthy vehicles on our roads that are licenced unduly by officials in the public and private sector testing stations”.

The CEO further remarked that; “ Ordinary South Africans are the victims of this cancerous act of corruption as the targets issue roadworthy certificates on vehicles not presented to testing stations upon receipt of a kickback. Their actions are in contravention of the Road Traffic Act, the Criminal Procedure Act and the Prevention and Combating of Corrupt Activities Act’.

Meanwhile the Road Traffic Management Corporation’s National Traffic Police arrested a gang suspected of housebreaking. While On the N4 Polokwane off ramp in Tshwane they stopped a white Corsa delivery vehicle, the driver refused to stop and sped off. When the vehicle was eventually forced to stop, the occupants jumped out and tried to escape. One suspect was injured as he was hit by a motorcycle while trying to run across the freeway. Four suspects were apprehended and three 9mm firearms, housebreaking implements were confiscated. The vehicle with false number plates and license disc was positively identified as a stolen vehicle by the South African Police Service in Silverton.

Ends

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Issued by the - Road Traffic Management Corporation

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