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PRESS RELEASE

To : All Media

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Attention: News Editors

Traffic officials nabbed for alleged sale of licences

Gauteng-: Twelve traffic officials were arrested in two sting operations – one in Benoni, Gauteng and the other in Secunda, - Mpumalanga in connection with the fraudulent issuing of learner's and driver's licences.

About ten officials were arrested at the Benoni Licencing Centre in full view of the national Minister of Transport Dipuo Peters and MEC Ismail Vadi and other senior officials who were visiting the centre for transport month activities.

The arrests followed a year-long investigation by the National Traffic Anti-Corruption Unit which identified a network of people in the Free State, Mpumalanga and Gauteng who were arranging fraudulent driving documents.

The documents were being sold for R3 500 for a learner's licence and between R12 000 and R15 000 for a driver's licence. More arrests are expected in connection with these fraudulent activities in the coming days.

All transactions conducted by the arrested officials will now be analysed and motorists in possessions of licences issued by these official will also be held accountable.

The Minister strongly castigated officials who were involved in fraudulent and corrupt activities within licencing centres. She warned officials that they were contributing to the country's high road crashes and fatalities by improperly issuing licences to people who did not quality.

She also said corruption was tarnishing the image of public servants and all efforts were required to restore the ethos of service to communities in all government offices.

Ends.

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