



MEDIA STATEMENT

To: All Media
Issued: 26 March 2018
Attention: News Editors / Transport Reporters / PR Wires

Benoni Vehicle Testing Station Employees Granted Bail

PRETORIA: Four employees of a Benoni private vehicle testing station have been granted bail of R1500 each by the Johannesburg Magistrate's court.

The four - Chris Els (60), Louise Kriel (57), Tanya Pretorius (38) and Fana Masuku (24) – were arrested at the Lincoln Vehicle Testing Station by a team of corruption busters consisting of the Road Traffic Management Corporation's National Traffic Anti-Corruption Unit, the South African Police and the Gauteng Traffic Police's compliance unit. They were held in custody at the Johannesburg Central Police Station over the weekend.

Their case was postponed to the 22 May 2018 and they were instructed to appear at the Pretoria Specialised Commercial Crimes Court where the matter will be heard. The suspects have been ordered not to contact witnesses to their criminal case.

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The four were arrested following months of investigation in which they were observed allegedly issuing roadworthy certificates for more than 30 vehicles that were not physically presented to the station for inspection.

More than 60 people, including traffic officers, SAPS members, vehicle examiners and private citizens, have been arrested in different provinces on fraud and corruption charges since the start of the year.

The success of the corruption busters in investigation underhand and unacceptable conduct in vehicles testing station has led to the total shut-down of at least two privately owned testing stations.

The Department of Roads and Transport has given notice of cancellation of registration to Hercules and Innovative testing centres. The owners of these centres were ordered to hand over the certificates of registrations to the Department and cease further operation.

The owners were warned that should they continue operating, they shall be committing an offence in terms of Section 89 (1) and (6) of the National Road Traffic Act, 1996 (Act 93 of 1996).

Section 89 (6) provides that any person convicted of an offence in terms of Section (1), read with any other provisions of this Act, shall be liable to a fine or imprisonment for a period not exceeding one year.

Members of the public are asked to join the effort to fight corruption in the road traffic fraternity by reporting incidents of alleged bribery, fraud and corruption on 0861 400 800.

ENDS

Issued by: Road Traffic Management Corporation (RTMC)

www.rtmc.co.za

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