



**Road Traffic**  
Management Corporation

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The Road Traffic Management Corporation (RTMC)  
is an Agency of The Department of Transport and a  
Member of the United Nations Road Safety Collaboration

## **MEDIA STATEMENT**

**To : All News Editors**  
**Issued : 19 August 2020**  
**Attention : News Reporters/Transport Reporters/ Newswires**

### **Drunk Driving Suspected In Crash That Killed Five People In Benoni**

**Gauteng:** The Road Traffic Management Corporation (RTMC) calls on Law Enforcement Authorities to step up their drunk driving operations every night and make it difficult for drunk drivers to use public roads.

This come as five people were killed and one injured when two vehicles collided in Benoni last night. Both drivers are suspected to have been under the influence of alcohol when one driver went into a curve at a speed not suitable for road conditions and collided head-on with another vehicle.

**Research conducted by the RTMC in collaboration with the South African Medical Research Council and the University of South Africa shows that driver alcohol intoxication accounts for 27.1% of fatal crashes in the country. This is estimated to cost the economy R18.2 billion annually.**

**Source:**

[http://www.rtmc.co.za/images/rtmc/docs/research\\_dev\\_rep/Driver%20intoxication%20and%20fatal%20crashes%20Report%20-%20March\\_2020.pdf](http://www.rtmc.co.za/images/rtmc/docs/research_dev_rep/Driver%20intoxication%20and%20fatal%20crashes%20Report%20-%20March_2020.pdf)



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**Board of Directors:** Mr Z Majavu CD(SA) (Chairman), Ms P Manqele, Ms T Mdlulwa, Mr T Kgomo, Prof. M Mphahlele, Ms T Thankge, Dr E Thebe, Adv. J Makgatho\*  
**Chief Executive Officer:** Advocate MS Msibi  
**Company Secretary:** Ms S Petse  
*\*Departmental Representative*

*Drunk driving operations should be prioritised during the night, weekends and throughout the year as evidence shows that 55% of fatal crashes happen at night, about three out of five happen over the weekends and 70% happen during non-vacation periods.*

**Research indicates that the risk for crashes involving other road users, such as pedestrians and other motorists, increases significantly when a driver is drunk. Pedestrians are three times likely to die in a crash where a driver was intoxicated.**

Compared to speeding and other driver related factors, intoxicated driving has been found to pose a greater risk for light motor vehicle and public transport vehicles than vehicles transporting goods.

The RTMC in collaboration with the South African Police Service and Ekurhuleni Metro Police are investigating the cause of the Benoni crash.

**ENDS:**

**Issued by: Road Traffic Management Corporation**

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