



Road Traffic
Management Corporation

Physical Address
Eco Origin Office Park, Block F
349 Witch-Hazel Street
Highveld Ext 79, 0157
Centurion, Gauteng
South Africa

Email: Info@rtmc.co.za | **Postal Address**
Tel: (012) 999-5200 | Private Bag X147
Fax: (012) 991-0371 | Pretoria, 0001

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
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Attention : News Reporters / Transport Reporters / Newswires

RTMC UNHAPPY ABOUT SUSPENDED SENTENCE GIVEN TO LICENSING MANAGER

PRETORIA -: The Road Traffic Management Corporation has noted with disappointment the light sentence given to the former manager of the Howick licensing centre in Kwa-Zulu Natal who was convicted for fraudulently assisting applicants to pass their learner's licence tests.

The Durban Specialised Commercial Crimes Court has sentenced Mr Roger Allan Everton to eight years imprisonment suspended for five years in relation to fraud that he committed while he was employed by Umngeni Local Municipality to oversee its licensing centre.

Mr Everton was convicted on 15 counts of fraud after admitting that he had assisted applicants to pass their learner's licence tests by indicating answers to questions by shining a laser light on the correct answer.

He admitted that his actions were wrongful and that he colluded with other examiners to commit this act saying "we share a common purpose and intent to defraud the National Department of Transport as we were giving out licences and pretending to



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Chief Executive Officer: Advocate MS Msibi
Company Secretary: Ms S Petse
**Departmental Representative*

the Department that those applicants took proper learner licence tests whereas we knew that in truth and in fact we supplied the answers to them”.

The court further sentenced him to house arrest for three years and 16 hours community service a month for the first two years.

The RTMC believes that the sentence is lenient and sends the wrong message. Mr Everton was a manager responsible for licensing when he committed the crimes. It was his responsibility to set a proper moral, ethical and professional example to his sub-ordinates and ensure that proper administration processes existed to minimise fraud and corruption.

Instead of doing that he joined his sub-ordinates in conducting illicit activities to defraud the state and endanger public lives by allowing untrained people to obtain licences. These aggravating circumstances should have ensured that he is given direct imprisonment.

Meanwhile it another development, two Tshwane Metro Police Department officers appeared in the Pretoria magistrate court today on allegations of bribery and corruption. The two were arrested in a joint operation over the weekend by the National Traffic Anti-Corruption Unit of the RTMC, the SAPS national anti-corruption unit and the Tshwane Metro Police Department’s internal affairs.

The team was conducting an authorised undercover operation when one of the agents was stopped by a metro traffic officer on the corner of Struben and Eskia Mphahlele Drive in the Pretoria central business district. The officer identified a traffic offence and threatened to arrest the agent unless he paid a R200 bribe. The agent paid the sum of money as demanded and the 44-year-old officer was arrested at the scene.



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Almost an hour later, another officer stopped an agent in Church Square, identified a traffic offence and demanded R100 bribe to avoid a traffic fine. The agent paid the bribe and the 38-year traffic officer was immediately arrested.

The two have been released on R2000 bail each and the case was postponed to 19 July 2021.

ENDS

ISSUED BY: THE ROAD TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT CORPORATION (RTMC)

Contact person: Simon Zwane: Chief Communication Officer (082) 551-9892

www.rtmco.co.za

Tel: 012 999 5200

Twitter: @TrafficRTMC



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