MEC BARRY SALUTES EC LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES FOR A SUCCESSFUL ARRIVE ALIVE CAMPAIGN

1. BACKGROUND

Arrive Alive Campaign is a national campaign and a joint effort from all nine provinces. This is meant to be an annual ongoing campaign aiming at combating the carnage on our roads. This campaign is always intensified during the December Festive and Easter Holidays. The Department of Roads and Transport in the province together with local authorities is responsible for the deployment of traffic officers to enforce traffic laws on all, national, provincial and local roads.

2. FACTS

The Department of Roads and Transport draws up plans for operations that take place during the festive period. These plans are approved by both the Administrative and political head of the Department.

After the approval of the plan the traffic officers in the six districts implement and operationalise the plans by manning road blocks, engaging on roving patrols, enhance visibility and doing speed checking during the festive period.

It should be mentioned that traffic officers were visibly deployed on our road network and law enforcement duties were performed.

The Department has established a roving task team that specialises in drunken driving and other serious offenses, which included 51 new young traffic officers and this proved to be highly successful. Traffic Safety was also responsible for mass communication, road safety education and also had a task team to remove stray animals off the roads.

3. PROSECUTIONS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>OFFENCE</th>
<th>TOTAL</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Drunken Driving Arrests</td>
<td>742</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Warrant of Arrests</td>
<td>456</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Speeding Violations</td>
<td>2209</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stray Animals confiscated</td>
<td>1566</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>---------------------------</td>
<td>------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No Drivers Licence</td>
<td>1394</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Passenger Overload</td>
<td>558</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Serious Moving Violations</td>
<td>242</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Motor vehicle suspended</td>
<td>291</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Defects</td>
<td>915</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

4. **SUCCESSES**

- 2 Arrests for position of unlicensed firearms.
- 1 Arrest for overload in the motor vehicle.
- 1 Arrest for fraudulent drivers licence.
- 10 Arrest for reckless and negligence driving.
- Highest speed recording is 182 in 120km zone.
- 16 Misuse of government vehicle were confiscated.
- 11 Buses were confiscated for unroadworthyness.
- 2 Arrests for bribery of a traffic officer.
- 1 Arrest for fraud

5. **STATISTICS** *(EASTERN CAPE VS S.A)*

During the period of the Arrive Alive Campaign from 01 December 2008 to 05 January 2009 the province recorded the following numbers of collisions, fatalities and injuries:-

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>EASTERN CAPE</th>
<th>S.A</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fatalities 2008</td>
<td>92</td>
<td>885</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Serious Injuries</td>
<td>189</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Slight Injuries</td>
<td>209</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accidents 2008</td>
<td>255</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
• The information obtained from the National Department of Transport is that the number of deaths in the country is 937.

• This reveals a decrease of 598 fewer people had died in road accidents last month compared to December 2007, when 1 535 deaths were reported.

• 937 people had died in 733 crashes reported throughout the country.

7. GENERAL ASSESSMENT

SIGNIFICANTLY fewer road fatalities were experienced this year compared to the same period a year ago. While festive season statistics showed a decrease in fatal and less serious accidents there was, however, a large increase in arrests.

Traffic and road safety officers were not allowed vacation leave through the festive season and this led to the increase in visible policing.

Our Task team arrested more than 644 people in the province and 47 people arrested on New Year’s Day.

The reduced fatality rate was a huge step in the right direction for the department to reach its 2014 target of cutting road traffic offences by 20 per cent each year.

The provincial breakdown :-

- 181 deaths in Kwazulu Natal,
- 167 in Limpopo,
- 136 in Gauteng,
- 111 in Mpumalanga,
- 92 in the Eastern Cape,
- 78 Free State,
- 74 in the Western Cape,
- 70 in North West Province
- 28 in the Northern Cape.

The main contributing factor to the decrease in fatalities is mainly due to increase of visible policing, traffic task team and stray animal task team that worked exceptionally well.

Road safety staff targeted the main tourist attractions and got the road safety message across to the public which also contributed to the successes.

Once the information from the municipalities has been received it will be included in the final report.

In conclusion, I need to mention that the staff of the department who worked over this period need to be complimented as not even the rain could deter their great efforts and I applaud them.

“Quality Service Delivery Through Transportation Excellence”
Issued by:
Honourable Gloria Barry
MEC for Roads and Transport
Province of the Eastern Cape

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