

MEDIA STATEMENT

TO: ALL MEDIA

ATTENTION: NEWS EDITORS

DATE: 09 JULY 2015

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

GOVERNMENT IS DETERMINED TO MAINTAIN LAW AND ORDER WITHIN PUBLIC TRANSPORT INDUSTRY

The Gauteng MEC for Community Safety, Sizakele Nkosi–Malobane, would like to make it categorically clear that the law enforcement operations in Mamelodi where more than 50 taxis were impounded so far is part of our routine public transport law enforcement in the area. But it is also a response to the criminality committed by elements within the taxi industry.

Such operations focus on public transports that are either stolen or operating without proper documentation as required by law.

"The assertion made by the local taxi operators that law enforcement agencies are targeting them as a result of their dissatisfaction with the awarding of Autopax bus service contract to operate in the area is baseless and unfounded. As the law enforcement agencies we, on a daily basis, conduct public transport law enforcement operations throughout the province focusing on vehicle and driver fitness as well as validity of operating licences.

We cannot sit back and allow a few disgruntled individuals within the taxi industry to hold us at ransom and compromise the safety of our citizens. Citizens must also make consumer choices without pressure from whichever quarter. Law enforcement is non-negotiable and we will continue to enforce the law until they comply, "said MEC Nkosi–Malobane.

These operations will continue until Mamelodi is back to full normality.

END

Issued by The Department of Community Safety, Media contact person: Thapelo Moiloa on 084 805 2247. For media releases, speeches and news visit the Departmental website at www.gautsafety.gpg.za

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