



GAUTENG PROVINCE

COMMUNITY SAFETY
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

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Gauteng Traffic Police call for responsible driving behaviour to make Gauteng roads safe ahead of Christmas weekend

The Gauteng Traffic Police has called upon drivers to be responsible in order to make Gauteng roads safe ahead of the Christmas weekend. High traffic volumes are expected on Gauteng major routes as holiday makers are expected to travel to various destinations to spend time with their families.

According to preliminary festive season road fatalities statistics, Gauteng province has lost over 150 people as a result of fatal crashes. This includes three children who were allegedly killed by taxis in two separate incidents in Eldorado Park policing precinct.

Human factors have always been a major contributing factor towards fatal crashes in Gauteng during the heightened festive season. According to preliminary statistics on road fatalities presented by the Transport ministry, 142 % increase in road crashes have been recorded nationally with multiple fatalities recorded already at mid-point of this festive season, resulting in 17 crashes this year compared to seven over the same period in 2020.

“The Gauteng Traffic Police call upon taxi operators and drivers in general to slow down especially in built up areas. I would also like to appeal to pedestrians to take charge of their safety this festive season by continuously wearing reflecting clothes while walking on Gauteng roads. While the schools are in recess, we encourage parents to ensure that their

children are safe by not engaging themselves in jay-walking,” Sello Maremane, Gauteng Traffic Police Spokesperson.

Meanwhile, most fatal crashes occur during the early hours of the morning and evening, especially between Friday and Sunday. “The festive season road safety campaign is premised upon four pillars this festive season such as no drinking and driving, buckling up, vehicle roadworthiness and pedestrian visibility. We call for responsible driving behaviour in order to save lives. Our law enforcement agencies will be working around the clock to ensure safety on the roads. I urge road users to work closely with them to ensure that no more lives are lost,” said Sello Maremane.

The Gauteng Traffic Police also urge road users to comply with the Covid-health protocols while embarking on their journey. “We appeal to motorists to always adhere to the Covid-19 health protocols by continuously wearing masks, practicing social distance and sanitizing or frequently washing their hands at all times,” added Sello Maremane.

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Issued by the Gauteng Traffic Police. For media enquiries contact Sello Maremane 083 781 8739. For media releases, speeches and news visit: www.gauteng.gov.za

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