

MEDIA STATEMENT

To: All Media

Att: News Editors

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

MEC Mamabolo condemns reckless taxi driver involved in early morning accident

Gauteng MEC for Public Transport and Roads Infrastructure Jacob Mamabolo has condemned the actions of the driver of a minibus taxi that overturned along the M1on Tuesday morning.

The man allegedly contravened the public transport regulations when he overloaded his vehicle.

It is reported the minibus taxi from the Ennerdale Taxi Association, carrying 15 passengers, overturned on the M1 North near the Xavier off-ramp. Passengers suffered various injuries and fortunately no one died in the incident.

"We strongly condemn this behaviour by the taxi driver and call on law-enforcement agencies to enforce the regulations without fear or favour. The driver must face the full might of the law for contravening regulations," said Mamabolo.

He added that the flouting of regulations by the taxi driver shows little regard for the lives of passengers. This, Mamabolo said, was unacceptable as government had consulted the taxi industry on the regulations that were announced by the Minister of Transport Fikile Mbalula.

The MEC once again reiterated the provincial government's call for the taxi industry and public transport operators to comply with COVID-19 regulations, adding that disregarding the regulations will have consequences.

"The regulations that are in place, especially for this period, are there to protect the lives of the people. Anyone who shows disregard for the regulations is definitely not assisting our efforts to flatten the curve and stop the spread of COVID-19," said Mamabolo.

ENDS

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