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MEDIA RELEASE:

42 arrested for DRUNKEN DRIVING in September

As driving under the influence of alcohol remains the greatest challenge in our area, the Traffic Department will, from time to time conduct a number of operations to address this problem.

As it is spring and approaching the festive season, many people want to go out and enjoy themselves, at the same time drinking and driving.

In terms of the National Road Traffic Act, 93 of 1996, section 65(1) and (2) a driver of a sedan vehicle will be convicted if it is found that a concentration of alcohol in any specimen of his or her blood, taken from any part of his or her body is not less than 0,05 gram per 100 millilitres.

In the case of professional drivers of minibuses, buses and heavy motor vehicles, if the alcohol taken from any part of his or her body is not less than 0,02 gram per 100 millilitres, the driver will be guilty of an offence.

If a person knows that he or she will be driving, rather not drink or ask someone who is sober to drive, because the Traffic Department is taking a ZERO tolerance approach.

It is difficult to say what drinking one bottle of beer or a tot of whiskey is equal to, in terms of alcohol in the blood, because it depends on the size of the person and whether they have eaten before drinking or not.

Drivers are therefore warned not to drink and drive because they will be arrested.

During September 2013, 42 drivers were arrested for driving under the influence of alcohol in Mhluzi, Middelburg, Hendrina and Komati. More operations will be conducted to ensure that drunken drivers are removed from our roads.

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Yours faithfully

WD FOUCHE
MUNICIPAL MANAGER