

PRESS RELEASE



To : All Media
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Attention: News Editors / Transport Reporters / PR Wires

Four officials arrested on corruption charges at a Soweto roadworthy centre.

Four officials, three vehicle examiners and a cashier, were arrested in an anti-corruption crackdown called in Operation Domino in Soweto today for allegedly facilitating the issuing of fraudulent roadworthy certificates to vehicles that had not been tested.

The four were arrested when a joint team of law enforcement officers comprising of the RTMC's National Traffic Anti-Corruption Unit, the SAPS organised crime unit, the Gauteng Traffic compliance unit raided the premises of Innovative Roadworthy Centre in Midway, Soweto.

Hundreds of roadworthy test sheets bearing a passed stamp and bearing the signature of the cashier, were found on the premises. Particulars of applicants and results of tests done on vehicles have not been filled on the forms.

Attempts were also made to conceal some of the test sheets behind cupboards by law enforcement officers found them when they searched the premises.

Board of Directors: Mr Z Majavu CD(SA) (Chairman), Ms P Mathabathe, Ms T Mdlulwa, Ms D Ewertse, Mr T Kgomo, Prof. M Mphahlele, Ms T Thankge, Dr E Thebe, Mr J Motsatsing*

Chief Executive Officer: Advocate MS Msibi

Acting Company Secretary: Ms S Petse

*Departmental Representative

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The four officials are facing charges under the Prevention and Combating of Corrupt Activities Act which carries a sentence of between three and 18 years. Steps will be taken to close the roadworthy centre down.

The suspects are expected to appear at the Johannesburg Commercial Crimes Court on Monday for a bail hearing. Vehicles that were tested at this station will be recalled and retested. Those found to be un-roadworthy will be impounded and their owners may be arrested.

Arrests related road traffic corruption are expected increase in the coming weeks as law enforcement officers intensify their pre-festive season operation to address all known factors that lead to road accident fatalities. Un-roadworthy vehicle contribute more than 10% of road crashes on South African roads each year.

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