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The Road Traffic Management Corporation (RTMC) is an Agency of The Department of Transport and a Member of the United Nations Road Safety Collaboration

To : All News Editors

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Attention: News Reporters / Transport Reporters / Newswires

FORMER TRAFFIC CHIEF GUILTY OF LICENSING FRAUD AND CORRUPTION

PRETORIA -: A former head of traffic and licensing in KwaZulu Natal has pleaded guilty to multiple counts of fraud relating to the irregular and unlawful issuing of learner licenses in Howick.

Mr. Roger Allen Everton appeared in the Specialized Commercial Crimes Court in Durban today facing 15 counts of fraud relating to allegations that he had underhandedly assisted learner license applicants to pass tests at the Umngeni licensing department.

Mr. Everton, a former manager for responsible for traffic policing and licensing at Umngeni Municipality, was arrested by the Road Traffic Management Corporation's National Traffic Anti-Corruption Unit and the Hawks in 2018. His arrest followed the arrest of nine applicants and six officials — examiners and clerks at the licensing department on the same allegations of fraud.

The applicants and Mr. Skhumbuzo Mkhulise, an examiner, pleaded guilty in separate trials and given suspended sentences. Ms. Thandazile Judith Shelembe, an administration clerk also pleased guilt and was sentence to fine and her prison sentence was suspended.



The five remaining examiners have been found guilty and are expected to appear in court on 15 April 2021 for sentencing procedures.

In a sworn statement submitted in court as part of his plea, Mr. Everton admitted he was aware of illegal activities conducted by his sub-ordinates but did not report them. He claimed he was put under duress to join the fraudulent activities and he received between R300 and R500 to aid each applicant to answer questions correctly. The case was postponed to 19 May 2021 for judgement.

ENDS

ISSUED BY: THE ROAD TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT CORPORATION (RTMC)

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