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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

## **MEDIA ADVISORY**

**To : All News Editors**

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**Attention: News Reporters / Transport Reporters / Newswires**

### **RTMC WELCOMES JAIL TERM IMPOSED ON TRUCK DRIVER WHO CAUSED A FATAL N3 CRASH**

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The Road Traffic Management Corporation (RTMC) has welcomed the decision of the Pietermaritzburg regional court to impose a direct jail term on the reckless truck driver who caused a fatal crash that claimed the lives of two people and left two others injured on the N3 highway opposite Midlands Mall last year.

The truck driver, Mr. NP Dzanibe, was found guilty and sentenced to two terms of 10 years imprisonment on two counts of culpable homicide, six months for reckless driving three months for exceeding the speed limit and another six months for failing to report the crash. The sentence is to run concurrently.

The trial followed a fatal crash on the N3 highway when a speeding truck plunged into another heavy vehicle that had overturned on the road in September last year. A traffic officer and tow truck driver were killed when Mr. Dzanibe crashed into the overturned truck. An ambulance official sustained severe injury while another traffic officials escaped with slight injuries.



**Board of Directors:** Ms N Mufamadi (Chairperson), Prof. M Mphahlele, Ms T Thankge CD(SA), Dr E Thebe, Adv. X Stemela, Ms L Magalo, Prof C Twala, Mr NJ Kudzingana, Adv. J Makgatho\*  
**Chief Executive Officer:** Advocate MS Msibi  
**Company Secretary:** Ms S Petse  
*\*Departmental Representative*

Mr. Dzanibe fled scene and failed to report the crash. A crash reconstruction expert from the RTMC, Mr. Terence Murphy investigated the collision and found that Mr. Dzanibe had driven with an expired professional driving permit, drove at 128 km/h which was 48km/h above the restricted 80km/h speed limit for the class of vehicle he was driving. The investigation further found that he drove his truck knowing that it had defective brakes, failed to heed warning signs put in place to warn about an active crash scene ahead, he was under the influence of alcohol and that he fled the scene after causing the crash.

The crash investigation report was submitted to court as evidence and Mr. Dzanibe did not challenge the findings of the investigation and pleaded guilty.

The RTMC commends Mr. Murphy for his splendid investigation and believes that the sentence will serve as a warning to other vehicle drivers that reckless and negligent driving is a criminal offence punishable by imprisonment when fatalities are involved.

“While recognizing that the sentence will not bring back the colleagues who died on the scene, we sincerely hope that it assist the families to have closure as the culprit has been punished, the RTMC believes that a much harsher sentence could have been imposed, however it accepts that justice has been served,” said RTMC CEO Advocate Makhosini Msibi.

**ENDS**

**ISSUED BY: THE ROAD TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT CORPORATION (RTMC)**

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