

Executive Mayor calls for caution on the roads as he launches campaign

The Executive Mayor of Mopani District Municipality, Councillor Pule Shayi has called on motorists and pedestrians to exercise caution on the roads during the festive season.

Speaking at the launch of the District's 2019 Festive Season Road Safety Campaign on the R81 road at Maphalle on Monday, Shayi said that "indeed we cannot afford to lose more lives in our roads like we have since the start of 2019."

He said as the festive season approaches, millions of people will take to the district's roads to visit their families, their loved ones or even traveling to various holiday destinations across the country and neighbouring countries.

"We also know that it is during this season that we lose more of our people to road accidents. MEC Namane Dickson Masemola has launched the provincial festive season road safety campaign, and he has identified the R81 road as one of the priority roads for law enforcement visibility during this period.

"It is by no coincidence that we are here today to launch the Festive Season Road Safety Campaign for the district. Our presence here is largely informed by the priorities as identified by the provincial government in the festive season plan. It is on this road that we lost 24 young people in a tragic accident in June this year. We are doing this also in their remembrance," said Shayi.

Police earlier arrested a drunk driver who allegedly failed a Breathalyzer test while the Executive Mayor was participating in the road block. Shayi said that there will be zero tolerance for road offences during this period. "Obey traffic rules at all times and avoid excessive speed. Don't drink and drive or text and drive. Always check your vehicle roadworthiness before taking a journey, and don't attempt to bribe traffic officers."



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He has also appealed to parents to be vigilant and never leave their children with strangers during the festive season, saying "we want to appeal to parents never to leave children unattended. Always be aware of your children's location and ensure that they are left in the care of responsible, trusted adults."

Shayi called on men to stand against gender-based violence and applauded the police for apprehending the suspect in the murder of a 28-year-old women from Sekgosese. Sibongile Nkanyane's lifeless body was discovered last week.

The Executive Mayor also handed over food parcels to four child-headed families, and urged communities to share with the needy during the festive season. "Let us have Ubuntu and share with the less privileged during this season, so that they also join in the festivities."



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