



## ROAD TRANSPORT AND SAFETY AGENCY

### PRESS STATEMENT

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#### **RTSA GIVES SCORPION BUS SERVICES SEVEN DAYS ULTIMATUM TO SHOW CAUSE WHY ITS OPERATORS LICENCE SHOULD NOT BE SUSPENDED OR REVOKED**

**LUSAKA, 26th April, 2019-** The Road Transport and Safety Agency has given Scorpion Bus Services seven (07) days to show cause why its operator's licence should not be suspended or revoked, for employing and allowing an unlicensed driver to drive a Public service Vehicle (PSV) thereby violating the terms and conditions under which the Road Service Licence (RSL) was granted.

In a letter dated 23rd April, 2019 addressed to the Director of Beta Build Hardware and Electronics, trading as Scorpion Bus services, the RTSA have observed that the letter action by the operator is tantamount to violating the conditions upon which the operator's licence was granted.

This comes in the wake of a road traffic crash on 17th April, 2019 around 19:20 hours, involving a Scorpion bus registration number BCA 8977ZM were fourteen (14) people died and sixteen (16) injured. The crash occurred along the Chingola - Solwezi road.

Accident investigations conducted by the RTSA revealed that the driver of the bus, Eddie Katoyo, was over speeding as evidenced by the fact that he overtook several vehicles and ended up hitting into a stationary truck in the opposite lane.

Further, RTSA records indicate that on 11th April, 2019, the same bus driver was reported to have been driving at excessive speed around Chisamba area on Great North Road. He was summoned, but did not show up to answer to the charge.

Further investigations into the accident also indicate that the offender Mr. Eddie Katoyo was not licenced to drive a Public Service Vehicle. It was also established that the driver gave false information to officers when he presented fake documentation indicating that he was licensed with a PSV licence when in fact not.

The RTSA is concerned that the operator could allow or employ an unlicensed and inexperienced driver to drive a Public Service Vehicle, an action that undoubtedly put a lot of lives at risk further resulting in injuries and fatalities.

Therefore, the operator abrogated the conditions of the RSL, by allowing or employing an unlicensed driver.

The RTSA is evoking Section 108(16) of the Road Traffic Act No. 11 of 2002 that empowers the Agency to revoke, suspend or vary the terms of a RSL if the conditions subject to which it was granted are not being complied with.

Issued by:

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**MUKELA MANGOLWA**  
**PUBLIC RELATIONS MANAGER**