

**ROAD TRANSPORT AND SAFETY AGENCY**

**PRESS STATEMENT**

**LET’S ALL GET INVOLVED IN PROMOTING ROAD SAFETY - RTSA**

**LUSAKA, 1st   November 2019** – The Road Transport and Safety Agency has called on all road users to pay particular attention to road safety if the country is to record a reduction in road traffic accidents.

The RTSA is, therefore, seeking the cooperation of all road users and Zambian citizens in eliminating risky behavior that results in road injuries, fatalities and loss of property. The RTSA seeks to ensure that, going forward, all citizens should exercise their moral conscious to do the right thing while using the roads as a means of mitigating road accidents.

All citizens are urged to adhere to road rules and regulations, adopt good road user behavior and best practices by not driving at excessive speed, not drinking alcoholic beverages while driving, not using the cell phone on the roads and correct use of seat-belts at all times.

All road users are implored to report broken-down vehicles that are a hazard and other traffic violations to the RTSA toll-free line 983 or hotline 0955 983983 for action.

The traveling public are also advised to ensure that appropriate modes of transport are used as they travel to their respective destinations and not use trucks or open vans as such kind of vehicles compromises the safety of passengers. The use of trucks or open vans is contrary to traffic rules and regulations. As such, appropriate modes of transport, particularly buses, should be used if road traffic accidents are to be avoided.

Further, the Agency wishes to caution all Public Service Vehicle (PSVs) drivers to observe appropriate speed limits as the RTSA will continue monitoring long distance PSV’s through the Global Positioning System (GPS). Additionally, to ensure compliance in relation to speed violations, RTSA will facilitate for the installation of GPS devices on all long distance PSV’s which is one of the terms and conditions for granting of the Road Service Licence (RSL) for 2020 and supported by Statutory Instrument No. 78 of 2016: Global Positioning System Regulations of 2016.

Any person who fails to comply with the Regulation is liable upon conviction in the case of a first offence to a fine not exceeding one thousand penalty units or to imprisonment for a period not exceeding three months, or to both.

The RTSA and Zambia Police will remain resolute to enforce the road traffic Act in a bid to restore sanity and reduce road traffic accidents on the Zambia roads.

To compliment these efforts, the RTSA will deploy an all-out road safety campaign to reach out to all road users to secure their cooperation in mitigating accidents whilst scaling   up road safety publicity and education campaigns.

**Issued by:**

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