



MEDIA STATEMENT
For Immediate Release
Date: Friday, 22 May 2026

SITUATION AT POLOKWANE TRAFFIC CONTROL CENTRE.

This morning, our traffic officers intercepted two minibuses on the N1 By-pass travelling from Zimbabwe towards Gauteng during a routine operation at the Polokwane Traffic Control Centre.

On inspection, it was found that one minibus carrying 27 passengers had only 1 person with a valid passport. The second minibus carrying 23 passengers also had only 1 person with a valid passport.

The Immigration team was immediately activated and is currently on site processing the 48 individuals found to be in the country illegally, in line with deportation prescripts.

The two South African drivers will be charged for human trafficking. Both minibuses have been impounded for contravening the conditions of their operating licences.

The Department remains committed to upholding road and border safety and will continue to work with law enforcement partners to clamp down on illegal activity and protect commuters.

Ends

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