



The Big Sky Road Show, 28th February, 2020

Featuring:

- The first time the Road Show is sponsored by Big Sky Supplies
- Increase in fines with a revised Schedule of Fines
- Fines are still payable in cash only – swipe machines needed
- Consideration topic of the week: Safety of children incl. child seats and zebra crossings
- Motor vehicle and ZBC licensing

Capitalk 100.4FM intro 0:06

Join the conversation on the Big Sky Road Show, discussing issues affecting the motorist. Aimed at positively breaking down the challenges you're dealing with to make our roads safer and your motoring experience more enjoyable. Follow the conversation on Facebook/Big Sky Supplies and www.bigsky.co.zw Big Sky are the 4x4 specialists and with years of experience in off-road vehicles, ZRP compliance and regional travel advice, Big Sky will assist you with all things motoring.

Kudzie Gona - Capitalk 0:39

16:06 Capitalk 100.4 FM Harare heartbeat welcome to the second hour of the drive. This afternoon is Friday the 28th of February 2020. And yeah, it is time now for the Big Sky road show and come to you each and every Friday between 4 and 4:30 as much of a coincidence, but I think it's nice because it falls under the Capitalk safety and security we can experience. But I think these are the things that we're talking week in week out, and that they fall under the same boat. So I'm really excited about this episode because you know, when we're talking about things that we're always talking about, but we always want to stress it to you guys, so that we make sure that we are, you know, at par and everyone is not left out during that process. Remember, you can get in touch with us if you have anything to contribute during the show. And that is 0719 100 404 that is our WhatsApp number. Get in touch with us and talk to us if you've got anything to contribute to our programming. I've got Sean Quinlan from Big Sky of course is joining me for this particular episode. He wasn't around for the last episode, but I'm glad to have him back. Good afternoon, Sean.

Sean Quinlan 1:52

Good afternoon, Kudzie. Good afternoon listeners. And of course today is the first sponsorship of the roadshow, so going forward it is the Big Sky roadshow. It's an absolute privilege for us to be sponsoring the show. And of course, we acknowledge Capitalk's time and investment in community, what you're achieving this week with under the safety and security and your support of all road concerns and security. So thank you very much to

Capitalk as well. And of course, it's really good to be out here in the open and we're outside broadcast. And on this hot day, it's beautiful to be out here. So we've got an interesting development in that we've just become aware of a new statutory instrument which is increasing the schedule of fines. Now motorists will recall during the roadblock period we had traffic offenses falling between level one which was a \$10 fine as in Zim dollar bonds \$10 level two was a 20 level three was a 30 well with inflation as it is obviously the authorities are now adjusting the fines to make sure that they remain punitive. If a fine is only \$30 now we're nobody would be giving much thought to it. But in fact we can completely understand why the fines are being adjusted. Now the statutory instrument which just came out is actually referred to as SI 57 of 2020 and it increases the level of fines a level one is now at \$200. Level Two is 300. Level Three is 500. So after that Level 4 for at 1200, all the way up to level 14, which is 120,000. Now, you've got to have done something pretty bad to attract the level fine of 120,000. But the the the levels that we're concerned with levels One, two and three. Because these all were a traffic offenses most regularly fall under. Anything over level four can only be imposed by a magistrate after a court appearance. So, and then our understanding is from experience in the last few months in the last year, we've seen that ZRP when fining for a traffic offence, typically apply level three. So we can expect that for our traffic offenses, for example, not in possession of a driver's license, a vehicle is not licensed and not carrying your safety equipment, you could typically expect your level three fine of around \$500 dollars

[Kudzie Gona - Capitalk 4:52](#)

Yeah, that's level three.

[Sean Quinlan 4:54](#)

That's level three. Yeah. So typically what is happening is that ZRP are actually lumping most of the offences under level three because at the end of the day they actually impose what is punitive. And so they're going to level three to make sure that the that the motorist does feel some pain.

[Kudzie Gona - Capitalk 5:13](#)

Yeah, it's a bit hectic

[Sean Quinlan 5:23](#)

Okay, as long as it's imposed fairly, you know, we're seeing this really bad driving. We know there's a lot of motorists out there who are not licensed. Yeah, we're seeing kombies driving on the wrong side of the road in against oncoming traffic. Well, frankly, it needs to it needs to hurt that there needs to be some pain. You know, we're having to deal with that bad behaviour. Well, when they get fined there really does need to be some pain. But just a heads up, which I think as listeners need to be aware of, is that there has been some shenanigans, some mischief by members of ZRP operative Central police station around the CBD area particularly Lucky street and others, where a motorist is effectively accused of an offense, which will require the vehicle to be impounded, that they have to go to court that there must remain in the cells until Monday morning, etc, etc. Now, typically it's just straight intimidation. It's not based on any fact whatsoever. And if this happens to you, then our suggestion is that you go along the central police station, if you feel that you're being

treated unfairly asked to see the Schedule of Fines, or to show you the offense. And what level that offenses as I say it should invariably it's going to be under level three, and there's no court appearance required you do not have to go to the cells and your vehicle does not have to be impounded. Instead, you if you accept guilt, you're going to pay a fine relative to that level, if you're uncomfortable you can go to police headquarters police General Headquarters, go and lay a complaint. And if you're still at Central police station and you feel that you're being bullied and treated unfairly ask to see the Dispol who is head off traffic for the region, head off traffic for the CBD. He's on the second floor at Central police station on exactly the same floor as the desk that you might be getting harassed at just asked to speak to the Dispol. And you might find that the guys behind the counter suddenly start behaving a lot more reasonably

[Kudzie Gona - Capitalk 7:41](#)

Quick questions Sean, do you think people actually come forward? You know, when they see the unfair treatment, or they just let it go?

[Sean Quinlan 7:52](#)

You know, I think there's a there is apathy, people have very low expectations. That is there going to be any remedial action? Now the reality is, is that there's a section at Police General Headquarters that are committed to actually improving service. It's mandated from the Commissioner-General, that effectively ZRP needs to be more user friendly, more customer friendly. So there's actually people who are dedicated to actually stamping out corruption and improving behaviour. There's ongoing ZRP training. And at the end of the day, if the motorist does give in and, and pays a bribe you become part of the problem. So keep your hands in your pocket, don't pay a bribe, rather, invest a bit of time see it through and and leave there with a clear conscience. Whoever was trying to get a bribe from you has failed. So effectively, it's a win for the community. And if you feel that you've been badly aggrieved, go to Police General Headquarters, you will you will receive a welcome reception. Then do get a report number, and then make sure you follow up until you actually hear the outcome. But yes, it could be all I say is invest the time make a difference.

[Kudzie Gona - Capitalk 9:16](#)

Now going back to this issue of fines Sean I'm also curious to understand the payment methods they're using.

[Sean Quinlan 9:23](#)

Well that we've spoken about it on the show before. Unfortunately, at the end of the roadblock error, the Swipe machines were removed from the police stations because effectively they were all going in various directions other than central Treasury. Unfortunately, the Ministry of Justice, because all of this falls under Ministry of Justice has not replaced or put swipe machines into the police stations for the convenience of motorists who need to pay a fine so effectively the payment is in bonds, it's in cash only. And of course, that lends itself to a whole lot of problems as well. So the motorist, again needs to be absolutely sure that you leave there with a receipt or a copy of the admission of guilt, you leave there with a fine. So you've got some official document to prove that you actually

did pay this over. But as it stands now, this \$500 is going to have to be paid in bond cash. Okay, there's a whole lot of pain coming here, a whole lot of pain Kudzi

[Kudzie Gona - Capitalk 10:33](#)

It's worrying. At the same time, you know, because you look at how things are right now, and people are really struggling, you know, to even make the little money that you can, and then you're getting to pay a fine. You know, it's such a huge amount in cash. I think there's a lot that needs to be done in terms of, you know, improving the payment methods today.

[Sean Quinlan 10:56](#)

Kudzi, absolutely. So between the Commissioner-General Matanga and the Ministry of Justice, we actually have to address the issue of putting Swipe machines into the police stations and the magistrates courts so that it is not a requirement to pay bond, for example, a business now, it's weekly allocation of cash to run that whole business might be 500 bonds you'd have so for a citizen to come up with 500 bond, well, it's just going to cause a lot of tears. So yes, the fines need to be punitive. They need to be painful. So that there is a genuine modification of behaviour on the roads, but by the same token, it needs to be reasonable.

[Kudzie Gona - Capitalk 11:47](#)

Now moving on, of course, to a slightly different idea. We do this each and every week, the idea of consideration and for this week, we are putting the limelight on children.

[Sean Quinlan 11:59](#)

Absolutely. But also this goes in the theme with the safety and security week Capitalk is promoting. And here we're talking about the safety and security of children. Now, I think all of us have had seen these cars, vehicles driving around town with children standing up in the vehicles unrestrained. They're in the front seat. Probably even leaning against the dashboard. They're not wearing their seat belts, or they're in the back, standing between the two seats. And for some crazy reason, again, crazy. I've seen this you have a father, or presuming is the father of the children, who kind of wants to show off his driving skills. And he's driving like he's driving in Formula One racing with his kids, you know, unrestrained in the vehicle, there's going to be unfortunately it's inevitable that there's got to be tears. So the simple Principle is, is keep the children in the backseat. I think anybody under the age of 10-11 should be in the backseat with a safety belt. If there's a safety belt fitted in that vehicle, put them in the back seat. If it's a single cab pickup, and they're in front, they've got to have their safety belts on. And then, of course, the use of child seats. You know, we're not seeing enough youngsters actually strapped into, into child seats overseas. It's the law in the UK and Europe, in America, wherever it's law, they have to be in child seats. So I think we do know that these child seats are expensive.

[Kudzie Gona - Capitalk 13:43](#)

Well, I've rarely seen people, you know, with children in child seats.

Sean Quinlan 13:47

Absolutely. Yes. So what I'm going to suggest is and I'm going to put this out there, if there's any NGOs out there who are looking for a cause these child restraining seats are generally available overseas as throw-away's. In other words, people have their kids have grown up there now they're not dumping these seats. If we could actually collect these seats, bring them into the country I'm sure we could get duty-free status on them and then refurbish them here using local labour creating jobs and actually make them available to parents in their for their use in their vehicles at an affordable price, even for a donation, but we're going to get more youngsters more babies into child restraining seats. If there's any NGOs out there. There's in fact there's a an organization in South Africa that is doing exactly this. And if anybody out there wants to pick up on this, they can contact us through our Facebook page, which is Facebook/BigSkySupplies. Or they could email me which is sales@bigsky.co.zw I'll put you in touch with the guys in South Africa who are actually collecting and refurbishing baby chairs and let's see what we can do in for our community here. And then the other thing of course keeping in the theme of children's safety and children is around schools.

Kudzie Gona - Capitalk 15:12

Okay was a I think another essential part of you know talking about safety and security and definitely considering children as well

Sean Quinlan 15:22

Of course Kudzi right now so for example again shout out to ZRP here. You got your de-congestion members, but it doesn't need any de-congestion training to have a member of ZRP out with his reflective vest assisting children to cross in near schools, intersections, busy roads before school and after school. The closest police station to that school undoubtedly has a few members who are not as occupied and not as busy as they could be. Why doesn't you the Commanding Officer of those various police stations deploy those people out to the schools in your area and make a difference for motorists. If you're approaching a school, watch out for the zebra crossings. Unfortunately and this is a shout out to City of Harare who should make sure that all the zebra crossings are actually visible from a distance. And then if you see a zebra crossing slow down, and the very last thing you should be doing is either speeding up or attempting to overtake in that area.

Kudzie Gona - Capitalk 16:29

Definitely 16:22pm and you are tuned into the Big Sky Road Show on Capitalk 100.4 FM do not go away.

16:22pm on capitalk 100.4 Fm Harare heartbeat, it is The Big Sky Road Show. And we're still going on with the idea of consideration. And this week, like we said, we are focusing on children, Sean.

Sean Quinlan 17:19

Absolutely Kudzi. So yeah, shout out to the to the motorists out there. If you're in your area where there is children, a school, or shopping center or anything like that, let's watch out for our youngsters. You know, at the end of the day, we are the adults. We're the guys who

must accept responsibility. We're behind the steering wheel, and it's our behaviour. And if you're a public service operator, and you're driving a combi, and you've got youngsters in the vehicle, guys, take it easy if you're driving your school bus, take it easy. So yeah, a big shout out to anybody who can get on the roads. We can to help improve the safety of children, and in particular parents restraining their children in the vehicles.

[Kudzie Gona - Capitalk 18:10](#)

Our last part of the show this afternoon. The idea of license renewals is something topical.

[Sean Quinlan 18:16](#)

Kudzie, well, it's the the 28th of February. It's a leap year. So we've got the 29th tomorrow, which is a good thing because you're going to need that extra day if you haven't licensed or your renewed your licence, either your motor vehicle licence and insurance and the ZBC licence. It is due and it's quite possible that ZRP will be checking for expired licenses from Sunday the first of March. So basically you want to get out there. And just to let you know, we often have this question put to us about fining for not having a current license or motor vehicle license. So if you go to Zinara, and up until 30 days after the expiry of your licence Zinara do not penalize. However, if you are driving your vehicle, ZRP are actually entitled to impose a fine from day one. So if you go on, if you go sometime during next week you got to Zinara and you want to update and your license expires tomorrow, you will be able to renew it within 30 days without penalty from Zinara. But if you're driving that vehicle on Monday or Tuesday and ZRP pull you over they're entitled to fine you so if your vehicles not licensed park it until you can get it licensed. And another time we'll talk about some of the challenges that face motorists when their vehicle owners when they are trying to renew their license. But for now, wrapping up the show, just a shout out that you want to get yourself renewed, you could probably go through the post office tomorrow even and the current costs: a term is four months and the current cost for a light vehicle is 200 Zim dollars for the licence and for ZBC is \$10 for one term.

[Kudzie Gona - Capitalk 20:12](#)

I'm thinking as all that this is something that people have been really not just negligence or ignorance, but it's something that people really happen to be paying attention to, you know, the idea of the need to pay these licences ...

[Sean Quinlan 20:27](#)

Well, we need to pay the licences because ultimately, our roads need maintenance and the whole infrastructure, and so there needs to be some revenue into Zinara to be able to do this. Of course, the other side of that is that Zinara needs to take those funds and apply them effectively. And that's a long conversation we can have another time ...

[Kudzie Gona - Capitalk 20:50](#)

Definitely. I have a WhatsApp message here taking us back to the idea of fines, and it says "Hi, Sean, our fines must be punitive the problems we face are caused by a few offenses using the 80/20 rule or what other major problem offense has been committed to police then should just focus on those the police cannot be trusted that it becomes a revenue raid or MG exercise again."

Sean Quinlan 21:17

Yes, very good point by the listener. Punitive, Yes. So that there's some pain, but it must not become a revenue generating exercise, or ultimately a fine as a form of punishment. All right, as a child as taking the cell phone away or sending them to their room, there needs to be some form of punishment. It does need to be sufficiently punitive. By the same token what I would suggest under 20 80 20% of the offenses would easily generate 80% of the revenue for ZRP by just focusing on those offenses which are most life threatening. Take the kombies and other vehicles driving against the flow of traffic into oncoming traffic, go through red robots crossing solid white line on the open road on a blind bend. These are life threatening, and ZRP should be out there and should be imposing fines for them. But yes, it all needs to be relative and it needs to be fair, doesn't it!

Kudzie Gona - Capitalk 22:27

Thank you very much 367 for coming in touch with us and coming through with your contribution please. It's after four and probably the last words that you those who are listening at home,

Sean Quinlan 22:39

OK just have a really good safe weekend, if it rains take it easy and watch your stopping distance between the vehicle in front of you otherwise, it's been an absolute pleasure this afternoon. Thank you

Kudzie Gona - Capitalk 22:49

Are you joining us, for the second edition tomorrow?

Sean Quinlan 22:54

I will try to. We've got a few things happening but it would be good to be back.

Kudzie Gona - Capitalk 22:59

Thank you Sean for coming through and I will catch you again in the next session of the Big Sky Road Show.

Sean Quinlan 23:05

I look forward to it Kudzi, thank you, definitely.

Capitalk 100.4FM 23:07

Thank you for joining the conversation on the Big Sky Road Show, discussing issues affecting the motorist. Aimed at positively breaking down the challenges you're dealing with to make our roads safer and your motoring experience more enjoyable. Follow the conversation on Facebook/Big Sky Supplies and www.bigsky.co.zw Big Sky are the 4x4 specialists and with years of experience in off-road vehicles, ZRP compliance and regional travel advice, Big Sky will assist you with all things motoring.

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