

# Dubai police chief tells of 'deep anger' over stunt driving

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**Dubai's police chief has slammed the antics of the Emirati motorists caught on camera 'stunt' driving on Sheikh Zayed Road, and spoken of his anger at their behaviour.**

"As a police officer I was deeply angered; that is why we elevated the gravity of that particular incident as an offence to a criminal one," Lieutenant General Dahi Khalfan Tamim told Arabian Business in an interview.

"It is a very dangerous thing to do on the roads, endangering lives in such a reckless way."

The controversy erupted in May when viewers from around the world watched as two large vehicles – a Nissan Patrol and a Toyota pickup truck – executed a series of tricks including driving on two wheels and performing do-nut manoeuvres, where a car circles around with smoke coming from all four tyres.

The video, which was posted on internet site YouTube and reported on ArabianBusiness.com, sparked a wave of criticism from driving experts as well as regular users of the 12-lane highway.

Within a week of the incident hitting news headlines, police located the two vehicles at the centre of the controversy and arrested two men, UAE nationals aged in their 20s. The suspects are thought to be facing up to three years in prison and fines if convicted.

On Friday, the Police Leaders Council headed by Tamim said the UAE had seen a decline of 21 percent in road deaths and a 32 percent drop in traffic accidents during the first quarter of 2010 compared to the same time last year.

This translated to a rate of 6.5 road deaths per 100,000 of the population.

Injuries from accidents had also dropped by 37 percent in the first quarter of 2010.