

Rescue obstruction

Verdict set in driver crash case

● **Appeal court to rule on 27 April**

Mohammed Darwish
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Curious crowds making emergency operations more difficult for first responders

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When an emergency unfolds, flashing lights and sirens often draw crowds. But what begins as curiosity can quickly become an obstacle for rescue teams working against the clock.

According to Col. Dr Osama Bahar of Bahrain's Ministry of Interior, managing onlookers during emergencies has become one of the most difficult challenges for security personnel.

Unlike organised gatherings, curious crowds form quickly and without coordination.

Presence

People gather simply to see what has happened, yet their presence can unintentionally disrupt rescue operations.

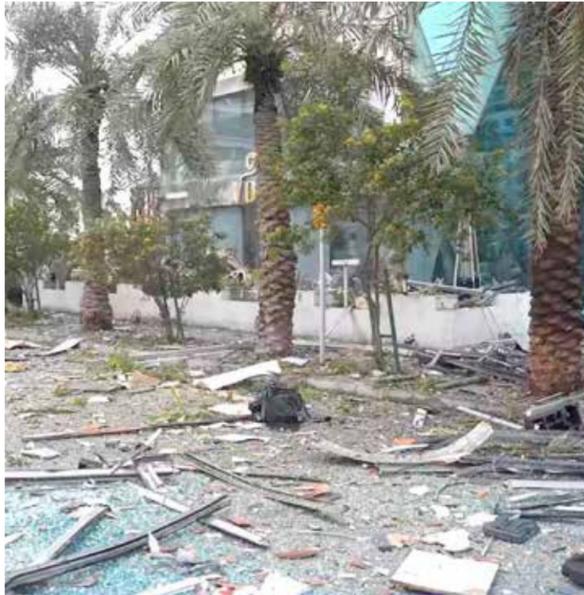
Standing too close to the scene, slowing traffic, or parking vehicles in the wrong places can block access routes needed by ambulances, Civil Defence units, and other emergency responders rushing to save lives.

"In rescue operations, seconds matter," Bahar said, noting that even noise from bystanders can



“Stay away from rescue areas, avoid stopping near incident sites and keep roads clear for emergency vehicles.”

— COL. DR OSAMA BAHAR



Aftermath of a recent Iranian drone attack in the Kingdom

ing a recent incident in which one of the hostile Iranian drones fell in Bahrain.

A witness at the scene told The Daily Tribune that many people gathered near the site shortly after the incident.

According to the witness,

say the issue extends beyond immediate safety concerns.

The Daily Tribune has received complaints from residents who reported suspected phone hacking after filming or storing footage related to such incidents.

According to these complaints, some individuals received suspicious links that later compromised their phones, allowing photos and videos to be extracted from their devices.

So far, the identity of the parties responsible for these alleged phone breaches remains unclear.

Way

Colonel Bahar said the most effective way for citizens and residents to assist during emergencies is simple: stay away from rescue areas, avoid stopping near incident sites and keep roads clear for emergency vehicles.

Helping, he added, does not always mean moving closer.

Sometimes the most responsible action a person can take is to step back and allow rescue teams the space they need to save lives.

A court of appeal will rule on 27 April on the case of a 38-year-old Asian driver convicted over a crash on Al Mahzoura Avenue that killed a 26-year-old Arab woman and hurt her young son.

The lower court jailed him for one year and ordered his deportation after he serves the term.

Prosecutors said he caused the crash through negligence, leading to the woman's death, injuries to the child, and damage to property.

Care

They said he drove without due care and in a way that put people on the road in danger.

The crash happened at about 3.05am on Sunday, 30 November.

The driver told a traffic policeman he was travelling west along Al Mahzoura Avenue at between 60 and 70km/h in the left lane.

He said there was no car ahead of him in any lane, a vehicle was behind him in the right lane, and nothing blocked his view.

‘Digital reach is better’, says Council for Environment

Supreme Council for Environment backs litter boards

Mohammed Darwish
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Boards saying glass can sit in the wild for 4,000 years have won backing from the environment council, but it says people are more likely to take note through their phones than from signs on a wall.

The Supreme Council for Environment said it had no objection to a plan for awareness boards showing how long common rubbish takes to break down, though it added that newer media would reach a far bigger share of the public.

In a written reply, Amna Hamad Al Rumaihi, chief executive of the council, said teaching people about the harm caused by every-



“Teaching people about the harm caused by everyday waste is part of pushing for more careful spending and less rubbish.”

— AMNA HAMAD AL RUMAIHI, COUNCIL CHIEF EXECUTIVE

day waste was part of pushing for more careful spending and less rubbish.

Harm

She said the council saw value in making people aware of

“the impact of waste resulting from consumption, whether organic, plastic or otherwise”, with the aim of cutting the amount thrown away and easing the harm done to the environment.



“The aim is to keep public spaces free of rubbish, keep clean areas looking as they should, and draw people to the coast for leisure.”

— MOHAMMED AL ABBAS, COUNCIL BOARD MEMBER

But while she backed the idea in principle, she made clear that screens would beat signboards for reach.

The council, she said, “has no objection” to placing awareness boards at waste collection and

sorting sites, yet believes “the use of modern media would be more effective, as it would reach larger sections and groups within society”.

Her reply followed talks at the Capital Trustees Board, which

had looked at a recommendation from its Services and Public Utilities Committee on putting up signs to show how long litter stays in nature.

The plan was pitched as part of a drive to strengthen care for the environment and the look of the capital.

Mohammed Al Abbas, the board member behind the idea, said the aim was to keep public spaces free of rubbish, keep clean areas looking as they should, draw people to the coast for leisure, and shield wildlife from waste that animals can swallow or get trapped in.

He also said it would help cut pollution caused by rubbish being thrown carelessly into public places and the sea.

Threat to property and civilian safety

● **Capital Municipal Council condemns Iranian attacks**

Hasan Barakat
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The Capital Municipal Council strongly condemned the recent Iranian attacks targeting the Kingdom of Bahrain, describing them as acts that threatened residential areas and endangered the safety of citizens and residents during the holy month of Ramadan.

In a statement issued by the council, members expressed their firm support for the lead-

ership of His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa and affirmed their confidence in the measures taken by the government under the leadership of His Royal Highness Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, the Crown Prince and Prime Minister, to confront the aggression and protect the Kingdom.

The council said the attacks extended into residential areas within the Capital Governorate, affecting communities in Juffair, Manama, Sitra and Seef, where the incidents resulted in fatalities, injuries and damage to private properties.

Solidarity

Members of the council also praised the field visits carried

out by HRH Prince Salman, alongside ministers and the Governor of the Capital Governorate, highlighting their directives to strengthen the readiness of state institutions, ensure the continuity of essential services and safeguard stability across the Kingdom.

The council further welcomed the directive issued by His Royal Highness that the government will cover the costs of repairing homes damaged by the attacks, describing the decision as an important step to support affected families and restore normal life.

The statement hailed the Bahrain Defence Force for its readiness and efficiency in confronting the attacks.

Works complaints make up most Isa Town and Tubli cases

Mohammed Darwish
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Road works made up most of the 295 requests, complaints and proposals logged for Isa Town, Tubli and Jurdab between January 2024 and December 2025, figures reviewed by the Capital Trustees Board yesterday show.

Of the cases sent to the Ministry of Works, 67 were for pavement and road maintenance, 10 dealt with water pooling and nine concerned the building or upkeep of speed humps.

Other requests covered sewerage, barriers, traffic and di-



Capital Trustees Board meeting in progress

rection signs, reflective mirrors, red paving bricks, parking spaces, iron fencing and access openings. Residents and citizens accounted for the biggest share of cases, submitting 170.

The national suggestions and complaints system, Tawasul, accounted for 63, while MPs for the Capital Governorate sent 43. A further 12 came from field visits, four from board members and three from a civil society body.