

Suspect arrested for traffic learnership scam

Mahikeng Mail-Mahikeng- North West Community Safety and Transport Management MEC, Dr Mpho Motlhabane last week cautioned people against bogus learnership recruitment.

It has come to the attention of the Department that a scam is currently underway in which suspects demand an amount in the vicinity of R3 000 or so from young people around Mahikeng in a pretext to recruit them and afford them access to the Road Traffic Management training advertised by the department in 2017.

"We understand that there is too much pressure emanating from high unemployment rate especially our young people but that must not drive the youth to fall victims of these fraudsters and their scams.

"We condemn with strongest term possible this act of criminality. We, however, have trust in our judicial system that the perpetrator will be convicted successfully and get slapped with a sanction that he deserves in order not to only pay for his actions but to also serve as a deterrent to others," said Motlhabane.

The Departmental MEC further advised the public to constantly verify information relating to recruitment and learnerships directly with the departmental officials or through social media platforms, call centre, website and or email address.

"Applicants are requested to fill in the Z83 application form. Note also that we always avoid to specify the number of positions

available for the learnership since this depends on the availability of budget and spaces in colleges," advised MEC.

The arrested suspect appeared at the Molopo Magistrate's Court and was remanded for further investigation whilst the accused, an adult male will remain in custody until January 18 (today) for bail application.

The police are still looking for his accomplice/s and more leads.

Meanwhile, MEC Motlhabane appeals

to members of the community who might have fallen victim to the scam to come forward and report their cases to the Mahikeng Police Station.

"If individuals know these perpetrators, they should report them to the police station and those scammed must report to the police station," he concluded.

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'Con man' appears for bail

ELFAS TORERAI

A MAN arrested for running a traffic cop recruitment scam is expected to apply for bail today.

The accused will appear in the Molopo Magistrate's Court following his arrest last week. At his first appearance, the man was charged and detained in custody to allow the police to conduct further investigations.

Community safety and transport

management spokesperson Thabo Sematle said the man would lie to his victims saying he worked for the department.

"It is alleged that the suspect claimed to work for the department of community safety and transport management's head office and responsible for the recruitment of traffic trainees. He was using names of certain departmental officials and collected bribes of R3 000 from different people," Sematle said.

Scholar transport ready for school reopening

MAHIKENG MAIL-MAHIKENG: The Head of Department of Community Safety and Transport Management Botlhole Mofokeng met with the newly appointed CEO of North West Transport Investment (NTI) Bukeka Mahlutshane and CEO of Learner Transport Gideon Wessie recently at Rustenburg Traffic station boardroom. The meeting was to discuss and come up with innovative strategies to improve scholar transport services and deal with challenges that were met last year.

Mofokeng was excited about the outcomes of the meeting. "The meeting was beneficial to both parties. We are ready for the schools reopening and assure everyone that all learners will be ferried to their various schools on time and safely. Our Department together with the Department of Education and Sports development and the NTI will run a thorough inspection on the scholar transports before the school reopening to ensure that the transport used to ferry learners are road

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Rustenburg: Pro-active policing could have prevented unrest

Mahikeng Mail-Mahikeng- The Democratic Alliance (DA) last week called for calm in Rustenburg after structures, such as houses, belonging to alleged drug lords were torched by community members.

The frustrations of community members stem from their complaints falling on deaf ears and local SAPS officers colluding with alleged drug lords and other criminal elements. "The DA will, therefore, write to the North West Police Commissioner, Baile Brenda Motswenyane, to initiate an investigation into the allegations that police in the area are working with criminals and contributing to the increase in crime rate," said Joe McGluwa, DA North West Provincial Leader. "In order to stem the tide of criminality in our communities, honest

and well-resourced police are needed, armed with a pro-active and responsible crime-busting programme of action.

"Violence will not solve the problems in the area but will only deteriorate the situation even further. "Our nation is governed by the rule of law, we cannot allow citizens to take the law into their own hands by allowing acts of vandalism and mob justice to prevail.

"It is unfortunate that the absence of the South African Police Service (SAPS) in the community has created a vacuum that has allowed mob justice and vigilantism to

flourish. "The DA will continue to be on the ground to engage with community members and to monitor the situation," he concluded.

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