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Department:
Economy & Enterprise Development
North West Provincial Government
Republic of South Africa



UNSCRUPULOUS BUSINESSES HIT HARD DURING MASSIVE COMPLIANCE INSPECTION IN RUSTENBURG CBD



FEED MEC MATSEMELA MS ONNICAH SITHOLE AND MR SEILE LETSOGO INSPECTING ONE OF THE BUTCHERIES IN RUSTENBURG

Rustenburg: The Department of Economy and Enterprise Development in partnership with South African Police Service (SAPS), South Africa Revenue Services (SARS), Municipal Health Inspectors & Fire Department, National Regulator for Compulsory Specifications (NRCS) and Department of Home Affairs and Agriculture conducted a joint operation as part of the World Consumer Rights Day Celebration

activities to protect the rights of the consumers against unscrupulous business practices within Rustenburg Central Business District (CBD).

“We have observed that some businesses are contravening various consumer legislations by selling contaminated meat products; not properly labelled and repackaged foodstuffs. The main concern was the storing and keeping of meat products without proper stock rotation plan and putting different types of exposed meat in same container which can lead to cross contamination, said MEC for Finance, Economy and Enterprise Development, Mme Wendy Matsemela.

In addition to that, 13 liquor outlets attached to businesses were visited which 3 contravened Liquor Act 27 of 1989, as amended. One of the outlets was found to be selling liquor and foodstuff within same premises. The outlet had misleading disclaimer around expired goods which is contrary to consumer legislations.

With regards to public safety, ten fines amounting to R32 500.00 were issued for contravening the municipal fire and trading regulations by-laws. Eight (8) spot fines were issued and a revenue of R20 000.00 was generated.

Goods and foodstuff amounting to R60 000 was removed and condemned as they were declared unsafe for human consumption. The goods were then destroyed at a nearby dumping site.

In concluding the consumer month celebration the MEC reiterated on one of the most critical rights of consumers, which is “the right to choose.” According to MEC, consumers have the right to make informed decisions whenever purchasing goods and also to ensure that the quality of goods is not compromised.

As government, we will continue to work with all relevant regulators to ensure that businesses operate within the prescribed legislations,” concluded MEC Matsemela.