



FRAUDSTERS TAKING FULL ADVANTAGE OF COVID-19 CRISIS

South Africa – While we are all uncertain about what the future holds, fraudsters and scammers are preying on the fear and anxiety of South Africans. According to a statement by the South African Banking Risk Information Centre, scams include spoofed

emails offering products such as masks, or fake offerings of vaccines that lead to phishing websites. These emails come from seemingly realistic and reputable companies which manipulate people into clicking on links. Some of these websites prompt the user for personal information which ends up in the hands of cybercriminals. The scammers also prey on NPOs, desperate for funding. Fake NGOs with fake NGO certificates are popping up. There are even some criminal elements who are visiting the homes of members of the public telling them to hand over banknotes in their possession because the banknotes have been contaminated with the coronavirus. These criminals carry fake South African Reserve Bank (SARB) identification and provide false receipts for the banknotes 'collected' which they purport can be cashed in at any of the banks. The SARB stated that they will not, under any circumstances, send employees or representatives to

collect cash from the public. If members of the public are approached by individuals purporting to be SARB employees or representatives, to hand in their cash, they should refuse and contact local police. Investec also sent out a statement noting that remote working has led to unprecedented digital dependency, and this has seen an increase in cyber fraud, with South Africa seeing a surge in digital attacks by criminals who are preying on our vulnerability during the COVID-19 pandemic.



COPS ARRESTED FOR CIGARETTES AND BOOZE?

Rustenburg – A police sergeant who appeared before the Rustenburg Magistrates' Court on Friday 22 May was charged with theft and defeating the ends of justice. Cindy Nidene Roos was arrested in Rustenburg two days earlier in connection with the theft of cigarettes worth R6,000 that were recovered during the arrest. Roos will make her second court appearance on 31 August. Roos, who booked out the cigarettes from the Rustenburg police station's exhibit store on 8 May under the pretext of dispatching them to a forensic laboratory, was arrested after her intentions were detected. In another unrelated incident, two police sergeants appeared before the Klerksdorp Magistrates' Court on 22 May over charges of theft and defeating the ends of justice. Thabang Selebale and Tshepo Poee will make their second court appearance on 17 June. The two were arrested over theft of liquor worth R10,000. It is alleged that they connived with two other suspects – Morgen Mofokeng and Timothy Nkola – to steal the liquor from three women being members of a stokvel. Mofokeng and Nkola, both civilians, reportedly convinced the women to sell them liquor belonging to a stokvel. It was during the transaction that Selebale and Poee emerged with an unmarked police vehicle and threatened the women with arrest for contravening lockdown regulations. They then confiscated the liquor, loaded it in a red mini cooper belonging to one of the two other suspects and drove off. It later emerged that the liquor was not documented as an exhibit at the police station. Mofokeng and Nkola were arrested on Saturday 16 May. They will appear in court with the police officers.

COPS SEARCHING FOR DECEASED'S RELATIVES

Groot Marico – Police in Groot Marico are requesting assistance in locating the family or anyone who knows the identity of a man who died on Sunday 15 March. The man, believed to be the aged 25 to 30, was killed in a car accident which occurred along the N4 highway near Marunthwane in Groot Marico. The man is light brown in complexion and 1.8m tall. He was wearing a white t-shirt, cream/white trousers and black sandals when he died. **Anyone who can assist in identifying the man is requested to contact sergeant Manuel Rabie on 082 337 6217 or Groot Marico police on 014 503 0069.**

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CORONAVIRUS

Protect others from getting sick



Avoid close contact when you are experiencing cough and fever



Avoid spitting in public



If you have fever, cough and difficulty breathing seek medical care early and share previous travel history with your health care provider

Credit:WHO www.who.int