



BE PART OF THE FIGHT!
REPUBLIC OF NAMIBIA

ANTI-CORRUPTION COMMISSION

Tel. No. 061-435 4000

PO Box 23137

Fax No. 061-300592

Windhoek

Ref:

Enquiries: *JNghituwamata*

PRESS RELEASE

(For Immediate Release)

Tuesday, 18 January 2022

THREE POLICE OFFICERS NABBED OVER CORRUPTION ALLEGATIONS

Three Police officers arrested over allegations of solicitation and extortion of foreign nationals made their first court appearance at Katutura Magistrate Court yesterday.

The accused Erastus Hashipala, Gilbert Owoseb, and Pinehas Ikanda are Constables at Wanaheda Police Station.

One of the accused persons has been a subject of an investigation by the Anti-Corruption Commission for quite some time after the Commission received a report of some Police Officials who were demanding money from arrested foreign nationals under the pretext of not having legal documents.

Following a thorough investigation, a sting operation was carried out which led to the arrest of Constable Hashipala, and Owoseb, on 13 January 2022 as well as Constable Ikanda on 14 January 2022.

The Constables aged 30, 28, and 37 are charged with corruption for contravening the provisions of Section 43 and 46, of the Anti-Corruption Act, 2003 (Act No. 8 of 2003). It is alleged that the Constables arrested foreign nationals who are suspected not to have legal documents to live in the country and detain them without any case registered against them. It further alleged that the Constables demanded payments from their detainees in exchange for their release instead of reporting them to the Immigration Authority.

The Constables allegedly solicited money in a range of N\$1000 to N\$3000, and close to ten (10) foreign nationals are alleged to have paid bribes through this scheme.

The trio remained in custody and will again appear before the court on 30 March 2022 as an investigation in the matter is yet to be finalized.

The Commission expresses concern over some government officials especially law enforcement officers who occupy positions of trust but continue to misuse these positions and professions to enrich themselves through corrupt dealings. Law enforcement officers are expected to protect and uphold the law, and not to break it.

The Commission commends all of those who take part in the fight against corruption. It further urges those in positions of trust to perform their duties diligently, ethically and uphold a high level of integrity at all times.

In the words of the Director-General, of the ACC Mr Paulus Noa, "to fight corruption every single person, young and old, has a role to prevent and counter corruption to promote resilience and integrity at all levels". Therefore, it's imperative that everyone takes a pledge to be part of the fight against corruption and have the courage to report suspected acts of corruption, so that the corrupt be exposed and face consequences.

To report corruption, visit any of our offices in Windhoek, Otjiwarongo, Oshakati, and Swakopmund or call **0800 222 888** or send an email at anticorruption@accnamibia.org.

Reporting suspected acts of corruption is one step closer to removing the presence of this evil in our society.

-END-

ISSUED BY:
PUBLIC RELATIONS OFFICE
TELL: +26461 435 4038
EMAIL: pr@accnamibia.org

