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REPUBLIC OF NAMIBIA

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ANTI-CORRUPTION COMMISSION

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**PRESS RELEASE**

(For Immediate Release)

**Friday, 14 July 2023**

**OWNER OF A SEIZED VEHICLE ARRESTED AND CHARGED WITH BRIBING A POLICE OFFICER**

Wilhelm Gideon, the owner of the motor vehicle (Landcruiser) used in the commission of an offence and seized by the Namibian Police Force on 19 February 2020 in the area of Oikokola near Oikokola Border Post, Omusati Region has been arrested and charged with bribing a Police Officer.

Gideon's vehicle was found transporting stolen pharmaceutical substances from the public facility-state clinic (Odimbwa Health Centre) to the border of Namibia and Angola and three officials from the Ministry of Health and Social Services were arrested by the Namibian Police Force in connection with the theft of pharmaceutical substances.

Gideon, is accused of approaching the investigating officer and requested him to release the said vehicle which had been booked as evidence in the police criminal case (Etayi Cr 12/02/2020), and of offering to pay the officer N\$ 20, 000.00 as bribe in exchange for the release of his vehicle.

On Monday, 10 July 2023, the incident was reported to the Anti-Corruption Commission, whereafter a sting operation was conducted that led to the arrest of the accused as he was offering the bribe to the Police Officer. The accused, an Operator at Namport, made his first appearance before the Outapi Magistrate Court

on Wednesday, 12 July 2023. Bail was denied, and the matter is remanded to 10 August 2023 for further investigation and set a formal bail application date.

The ACC commends the Namibian Police Force members who put national interests above their personal interests by reporting corrupt persons who offer bribes in exchange for betraying the national responsibilities entrusted to them. These are men and women in uniform whom the Inspector-General of the Namibian Police Force should consider for special promotion as a reward for their honesty, integrity, and commitment to national service. What the NAMPOL official did is a good example for other officials in all sectors to emulate.

Members of the public are therefore cautioned that items or properties used in the facilitation or commission of crimes are considered instruments of crime, and may be declared forfeit to the state under the Prevention of Organized Crime Act 2004 (Act No. 29 of 2004), sold, and the proceeds deposited in the Revenue Fund.

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](mailto:anticorruption@accnamibia.org).

ACC stands firm and ready to take speedy actions against suspects of corruption.

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