



March 10, 2022

**MEDIA STATEMENT
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
10 MARCH 2022**

SIU RAIDS NATIONAL LOTTERIES COMMISSION OFFICES IN THE NORTHERN CAPE

The Special Investigating Unit (SIU) has obtained a search and seizure warrant from the Kimberly Magistrate Court, Northern Cape province, to raid the National Lotteries Commission (NLC) offices.

The warrant, which was obtained on 8 March 2022, authorises the SIU to search and seize evidence from the NLC-Kimberly office relating to the funding of Non-Profit Organisations (NPO) to uplift communities in the Province.

Accompanied by members of the Directorate for Priority Crime Prevention (HAWKS), SIU investigators are currently raiding NLC offices to seize evidence that might assist with an ongoing investigation.

The SIU was reliably informed by whistleblowers that NLC officials had allegedly enlisted services of runners, who were tasked with the responsibility of scouting NPOs in the Province and encourage them to apply for NLC funding. Immediately after the funding was approved and released to NPOs, it is alleged that the runners together with NLC officials would share approximately thirty percent of the funding.

Fearing that normal procedure of requesting documents, in accordance with SIU Act 74 of 1996, might result in crucial evidence being compromised, the SIU approached the Magistrate Court for a search and seizure warrant to raid NLC office. The SIU is looking to seize documents, laptops and computer hard drives.

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The SIU was, in terms of Proclamation R32 of 2020, authorized by President Cyril Ramaphosa to investigate allegations of corruption and maladministration in the affairs of NLC and the conduct of NLC officials.

The proclamation covers offences which took place between 1 January 2014 and 6 November 2020, the date of publication of this Proclamation, or which took place prior to 1 January 2014. It also covers any offences after the proclamation date that are relevant to, connected with, incidental to the matters or involve the same persons, entities or contracts investigated under authority of Proclamation R32 of 2020.

Fraud and corruption allegations may be reported via the following platforms:
siu@hotline.co.za / Hotline: 0800 037 774


Enquiries: Mr Kaizer Kganyago
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ABOUT THE SIU:


The SIU is an independent statutory body with a primary mandate to investigate allegations of corruption, malpractice and maladministration in the affairs of government departments, municipalities and State Owned Entities, and to recover financial losses suffered by State institutions. The SIU was established in terms of the Special Investigating Units and Special Tribunal Act, Act No 74 of 1996 (SIU Act).

The SIU has powers to subpoena witnesses, bank statements and cellphone records, search, seize evidence and interrogate witnesses under oath. The SIU can take civil action to correct any wrongdoing it uncovers in its investigations.



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Where criminal conduct is uncovered during investigations, the SIU will bring the matter to the attention of its partners Hawks in the South African Police Service (SAPS), as well as the National Prosecuting Authority (NPA) for further action.



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