



ANTI-CORRUPTION COMMISSION

PRESS RELEASE

**ARRESTS: SENIOR WORKS INSPECTOR, MINISTRY OF WORKS
GROOTFONTEIN AND ONE OTHER BY ANTI-CORRUPTION COMMISSION
ACC HQO 14-000997**

The Anti-Corruption Commission finalized an investigation alleging corrupt practices in respect of the construction of the sewerage drain at the Maroelaboom Police Station during the end of December 2013 to February 2014. The allegations pertain to the alleged involvement of Mr Jan Johannes Diergaardt (62 years), the Senior Works Inspector (now retired) of the Ministry of Works and Transport, Grootfontein in the renovation of the sewerage drain of the Maroelaboom Police Station. Mr Diergaardt drafted the bill of quantities for the project. The work was awarded to Steven Renovations. Steven Renovations allegedly belongs to Mr Steven Komalian Mentjies (37 years of age). It is alleged that Mr Diergaardt had an interest in this sole proprietorship company as he submitted leave for the period when the construction was performed, signed off on the works as if it was correctly done (whilst on leave) was on site during the construction and paid the workers. In addition, certain construction was paid for but allegedly not performed, actual construction work on the French drain was allegedly decreased and differed from measurements stipulated in the bill of quantities, and inflated invoices were allegedly provided and paid for by the Ministry by both Mr Diergaardt and Mr Mentjies. The work certified for and paid totaled an amount of N\$ 277 206-53, whilst the actual value of the construction work performed is N\$ 250 576-41 resulting in the Ministry being allegedly overcharged to the tune of N\$ 26 630-12.

On completion of the investigation the case was forwarded to the Prosecutor General who decided to arraign Mr Jan Johannes Diergaardt, Mr Steven Komalian Mentjies in the Regional Court Otjiwarongo on five charges ranging from contraventions of section (43) (1) (Corruptly use office or position for gratification), section 46 (b) (Conspiring to commit corruption) of the Anti-Corruption Act, Act No.8 of 2003 and fraud. They were both arrested on the 28th of June 2017, appeared in the Windhoek Magistrates Court on the same day and was granted bail of N\$ 5000 each. They have to appear again in the Regional Court in Grootfontein on the 8th of August 2017.



Jan Johannes Diergaardt



Steven Komalian Mentjies

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