

SOUTH AFRICA WORKS BECAUSE OF PUBLIC WORKS



Public Works Director-General
Mziwonke Dlabantu

WARNING!

The National Department of Public Works (DPW) would like to warn unsuspecting suppliers of a scam being perpetrated by fraudsters pretending to be DPW officials and robbing their businesses of valuable goods.

The fraudsters use fake DPW documents to order expensive goods from unsuspecting suppliers. The fraudulent orders are supplied by people who are unknown to the Department, but they usually bear names of former and current employees in the Department.

They also use fake DPW letterheads which have different contact details to official DPW's contacts. The fraudsters call the targeted businesses, claiming that the "Department has awarded them contracts or tenders". They would then fax the forged DPW order forms to the businesses and request them to deliver the goods to an address other than official DPW offices. Once the goods are delivered to the appointed addresses, the fraudsters disappear without paying.

To date, more than 20 companies have fallen prey to the scams and lost more than R26m worth of goods. More than 40 businesses averted being scammed by contacting DPW to verify the authenticity of the orders.

The Department of Public Works is working closely with the South African Police Service in order to arrest these criminals.

We urge suppliers to verify order numbers or contact details with our offices before they supply any goods or services. Goods destined for the Department should be delivered only to the Departmental offices.

The DPW cannot be held liable for any fraudulent transactions between the supplier and the perpetrator.

The DPW as part of its seven year Turnaround Strategy has been embarking on a number of campaigns that will rid it of all types of crime.

We therefore urge suppliers to be extremely vigilant. When in any doubt, they should verify all relevant details with the Department on these numbers 012 406 1463/2046/1439. Remember DPW has declared zero tolerance on fraud and corruption.



public works

Department:
Public Works
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA