

Caught in the act!

Two alleged fraudsters have been arrested trying to collect a delivery of forklifts, ordered using the Department of Public Works' (DPW) fake documents; a week after the Department launched its anti-fraud awareness campaign.

On 24 August 2015, the Department's Fraud Awareness Investigation unit received a call from the owner of a company based in Silverton that supplies forklifts. The owner told the unit that he had received a call from a person who said worked at DPW requesting a quotation, for two 5ton forklifts. He was told that the goods will be collected in two days.

The Fraud Awareness Investigation Unit then contacted the police's Commercial Branch in Pretoria and a trap was set. The suspects were then arrested and appeared in Court on the 26th of August. Preliminary investigations found that one of the suspects, the truck driver, was hired on the street to go and collect the goods while the second suspect is the alleged mastermind behind the scheme. The suspected mastermind however claims that he too was hired on Bosman Street by people wearing EPWP t-shirts and claimed to be employees of the department. He was later released on bail and will appear in Court on the 11th of September 2015. The other suspect (the driver of the truck) was released with no charges.