

Police tow away luxury car after luxury car from Mpisanes' mansion

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HOME VISIT

MILLIONAIRE couple Sbu and Shauwn Mpisane had to let go of their famous fleet of supercars when the Asset Forfeiture Unit descended on their La Lucia mansion yesterday.

This time, the unit — which raided the Durban house in 2011 during a tax-evasion and fraud investigation against Shauwn — were there to seize assets worth R140-million believed to be the gains of alleged misrepresentation to the Construction Industry Development Board.

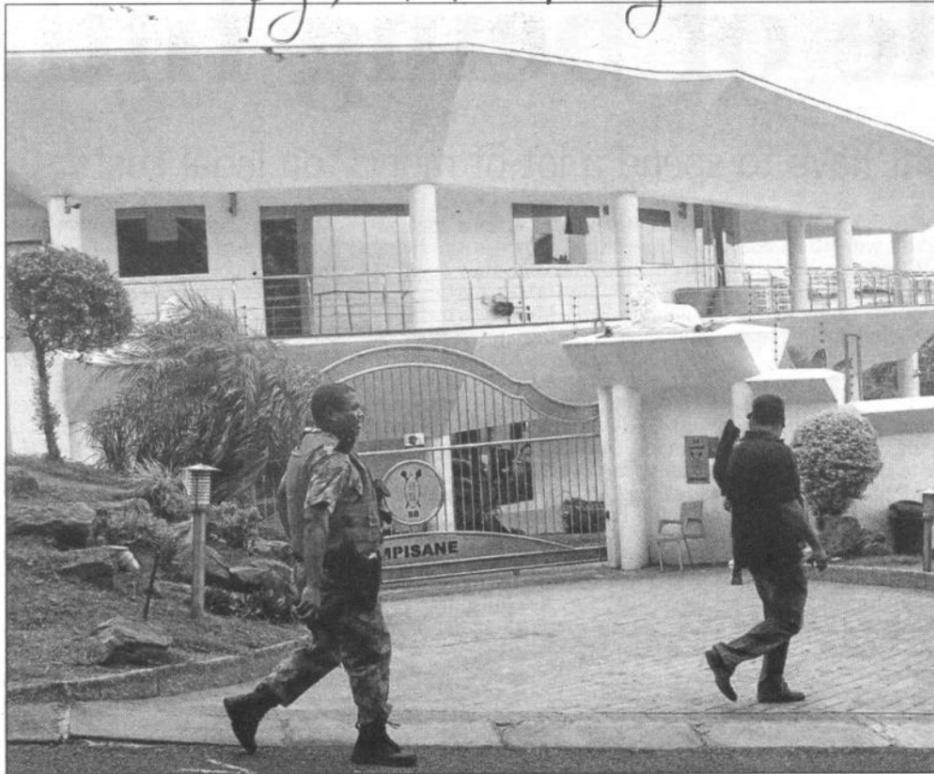
Shauwn, her company, Zikhulise Cleaning Maintenance and Transport cc, Sbu and his company, Zikhulise Auto Restorers, are accused of submitting fraudulent information to boost their grading so they could secure multimillion-rand housing contracts.

The flashy businesswoman did not stay to watch police tow away a Royce-Rolls Phantom, a BMW 550i, a Porsche Cayenne, a Ferrari 612 Scaglietti, a Maserati GranCabrio, a Porsche Panamera, another Rolls-Royce, a Hummer H2, a Hummer H3 and an imported Dodge Ram.

Her husband, a former Durban metro policeman, and the couple's attorney, Themba Majoli, tried to negotiate with curator Trevor White and other anti-corruption officials, who were accompanied by private security guards and police officers, but the cars were taken away to an auctioneer's pound in Springfield.

The heavily armed guards surrounded the property while at least six security guards employed by the Mpisanes were scattered, with weapons in hand, in the yard.

Onlookers watched tow-trucks go in the gate and gasped they came back out towing each su-



BUST: The Asset Forfeiture Unit, police and security guards raid the home of Shauwn and Sbu Mpisane in La Lucia, Durban, yesterday
Picture: THEMBINKOSI DWAYISA

percar. The police were unable to attach all 25 of the Mpisanes' listed vehicles. Among those they plan to seize today are nine Hyundai bakkies, four Volkswagens, nine Nissan Hardbody bakkies, a Tata Tipper Truck, a Tata bus, a Hyundai i20, a Brinto Engineering Tanker trailer, a Mazda B-series, a BMW 5 series, two Lamborghini Murcielagos, a Chrysler 300C and a Ford Courier.

The Asset Forfeiture Unit will freeze the couple's bank accounts to make up the R140-million total.

Hawks spokesman Captain Paul Ramaloko said the Mpisanes might appear in court today.

Shauwn's separate tax-evasion and fraud trial is scheduled to resume in the Durban Regional Court next week.

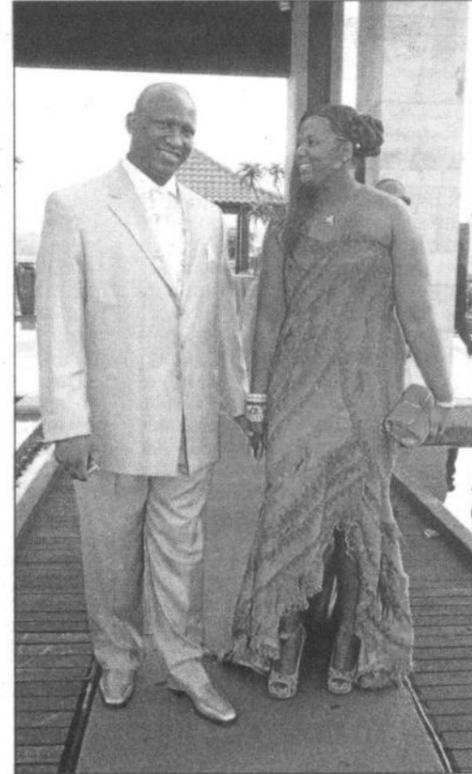
She is accused of submitting revised financial statements to the

taxman that understated Zikhulise Cleaning's profits.

The 119 charges against her include contravention of the Close Corporations Act by managing a business even though she was convicted of tax fraud in 2005.

In August last year, the Durban High Court accepted an out-of-court settlement that gave a multi-million-rand municipal housing contract back to Mpisane, but

IN TROUBLE



ACCUSED: Sbu and Shauwn Mpisane
Picture: JACKIE CLAUSEN

stripped her of future preferential treatment.

The eThekweni Municipality agreed to settle the R176-million owed to Mpisane for houses it had built, and to honour the contract by allowing Zikhulise to build the remaining 2 825 units.

Mpisane will earn about R141-million for the houses.

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