

An alleged villain defrauding unsuspecting employers in Warden

WARDEN: An alleged criminal has been spotted and apprehended by the South African Police Services in the Warden (Eastern Free State) farming area. This individual is visiting farms in and around the town under the false pretense that he is sent to conduct inspections and offer training on Occupational Health and Safety (OHS) by the Department of Labour. This alleged fraudster's name is Tlalenyane Elias Ramathe. He is currently in police custody and appeared before Warden Magistrates Court on the 10 April 2018. He is remanded in custody and will be appearing in court for the second time today, 19th of April 2018 for bail application. Preliminary investigations conducted by the Department revealed that such a person never worked for the Department of Labour. Upon further interrogation by the police he claimed to be working for the Department of Public Works. After liaising with the said Department, it was discovered that he was a mere intern for the Department of Public Works between the periods 2006 to 2007. The Department of Labour has learnt that this self-appointed person masquerading as an official contracted by the Department is conducting bogus labour inspections and illegal trainings on OHS to

employers in the Warden area. Once these flawed trainings are concluded, he then demands that employers pay him a total of R4000.00 for each of those trainings. He even issues unscrupulous competency certificates to attendees of these courses.

"We therefore urge employers and the clients of the Department in general to be wary of this individual. He is nothing but a crook trying to milk you of your hard-earned monies. We further appeal to the business community and the society at large to verify with the Department the legitimacy of anyone with suspicious motives claiming to do business on behalf of the Department", said Nomfundo Douw-Jack – Chief Director: Provincial Operations in the Free State province.

"We would also like to commend the Warden police for their swift response in arresting this alleged criminal. It is through inter-governmental relations and corporations of this nature that the necessary in-roads will be made in our endeavours to curb lawlessness and acts of criminality perpetuated against employers and workers alike," Ms. Douw-Jack concluded.