

Evidence overwhelms a fraudster—she pleads guilty, and she gets sentenced: Duma warns other criminals as he fights fraud and extortion

Media and Public Statement by the MEC for Transport and Human Settlements, Siboniso Duma.

14 January 2026

Inkosi Mhlabunzima Maphumulo House: We wish to inform the people of KwaZulu-Natal that Ms. Nozipho Mathenjwa has been sentenced to six (6) months in prison, alternatively a R10 000 fine (R5000 suspended for 3 months).

She appeared in Ubombo Magistrates Court today and pleaded guilty to counts of fraud, impersonation and extortion.

As indicated this morning, I received complaints from community leaders and residents complaining about Ms. Mathenjwa, who was impersonating officials from the Department of Human Settlements.

She demanded money from unsuspecting members of the public in return for job opportunities, houses, and tenders for the construction of houses. She targeted vulnerable members of society in UMkhanyakude District Municipality.

She approached service providers and companies in the construction sector, claiming they had been awarded construction tenders. She demanded upfront payments or a processing fee.

Once again, we wish to commend the Department of Human Settlement's Anti-Fraud and Corruption Investigating Team and SAPS for leaving no stone unturned in order to ensure a successful prosecution and conviction of Ms. Mathenjwa.

Our focus is now on dismantling other syndicates within the housing sector.

Finally, we wish to remind unsuspecting members of the public to be aware of fraudsters who are posing as department officials.

You should not pay money for any job, tender, or to jump the queue for an RDP house.

Ends

Issued by the MEC for Transport and Human Settlements

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