

Media Statement



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TO: ALL MEDIA

DATE: 25 JANUARY 2021

RE: FORMER NMB MUNICIPALITY SENIOR OFFICIAL SENT TO PRISON

Former Nelson Mandela Bay Municipality communication director, Roland Williams, has been sent to prison for four years by the Port Elizabeth Commercial Crimes Court after he breached the terms and conditions of his suspended sentence for fraud.

In May 2018, Williams was sentenced to 36 months of correctional supervision, suspended four-years imprisonment, a fine of R30 000 and was instructed to repay Santam the R96 000 he defrauded the company. He was to pay through monthly installments of R3 500 from 03 May 2018 to 31 May 2020.

Williams had earlier pleaded guilty to insurance fraud for a fraudulent claim of more than R115 000 he made to Santam.

Williams had deliberately caused extensive damage to his BMW in order to claim from Santam. He was experiencing engine problems with his car.

Santam submitted an affidavit to the state reporting Williams had defaulted. He last made payment in October 2019, as a result still owed them R40 000.

He was then re-arrested in November 2020 by the Hawks at his home in Port Elizabeth. Williams then paid the outstanding R40 000 a few days after his arrest.

His attorney then immediately submitted an application for leave to appeal which Senior State Prosecutor Advocate Lise Keech opposed.

Magistrate Lionel Lindoor dismissed Williams' application. He said no other court would come to a different conclusion.

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