

# Media Statement



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**TO: ALL MEDIA**

**DATE: 26 OCTOBER 2018**

**RE: FORMER MAINTENANCE MANAGER SENTENCED FOR CORRUPTION  
AND MONEY LAUNDERING**

The Bellville Specialised Commercial Crimes Court sentenced a former maintenance manager of a top Cape Town hotel to six years direct imprisonment and fined his company R200 000 suspended for five years after both were convicted of corruption and money laundering charges.

Ian John Pakoe who was a manager at Table Bay Hotel was convicted on 42 counts of corruption and one count of money laundering. His company IJP Consultants in which he was the sole owner was also convicted for the same number of charges. He was sentenced to six years direct imprisonment for corruption and two years for money laundering. The court ordered the second sentence to run concurrently with the six years sentence. His company was fined R200 000 suspended for five years.

He was also sentenced to three months for failure to submit Vat and Income Tax Returns which the court also ordered to run concurrently with the six years prison sentence.

Advocate Simon Leope who successfully prosecuted the case which has been on the roll from 2013 said: "I am happy with the sentence handed by the court, although I asked for 8 years." Pakoe and his company were not the only accused in this case. His friend and planner of the corruption and money laundering scheme, Anthony Lottering, became a state witness and received indemnity from prosecution. His ex-girlfriend, Ferosa Ismael, pleaded guilty and was convicted of 42 counts of corruption on 18 October 2013. She was sentenced to a fine of R20 000 or 5 years imprisonment wholly suspended for a period of 5 years.

Pakoe's family members and friends who submitted affidavits pleading with the court not to send the accused to jail, cried uncontrollably after the magistrate sentenced him. "Ten

affidavits from family members and friends were submitted in this court with some members saying he was wrongly convicted. I don't blame them. It is clear they knew nothing of the crimes committed by the accused. The court's experience is that the accused is a smooth operator and very slimy when dealing with his interest," Magistrate Sonnenberg said as she read the sentence.

Pakoe and his co-accused scam started after the Table Bay Hotel started with a renovation programme of its rooms. Anthony Lottering was the Maintenance Manager at the hotel while Pekoe was a Maintenance Administrator at the same hotel. Lottering was responsible for obtaining and/or ensuring that three quotes are obtained for services required, making and/or giving instructions for the purchasing order and used company computers for business on a daily basis while on duty.

Lottering left and joined the One and Only Hotel and Pakoe was appointed as a Maintenance Manager. At the time, Ferosa Ismael was employed by Glass and Allied Industries and was romantically involved with Pekoe. After learning that the hotel planned to renovate its rooms and a huge budget was set aside for that, the two recommended certain service providers to get the tenders in return for kickbacks. Their planned scheme led to Ismael leaving her employment and formed her own companies – Hospitality Glass and Aluminium CC and Rozy's Electrical and Building Supplies CC so that she would get the tenders. Lottering and Pakoe also registered their own companies with bank accounts. Kickbacks were paid into these bank accounts. Pekoe received R958 539 67 in kickbacks.

After the sentencing, Advocate Leope argued that the accused was not fit to possess a firearm. The court and the accused's legal representative agreed.

Kind Regards,

**Eric Ntabazalila**

**Regional Spokesperson: DPP Western Cape**

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