

# Media Statement



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**TO: ALL MEDIA**

**DATE: 5 August 2009**

**RE: NPA SEIZES ASSETS IN FRAUD AND THEFT CASE**

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On 29 July 2009 the North Gauteng High Court granted a restraint order in terms of the Prevention of Organised Crime Act against Catharina Magrietha van Niekerk (46), which prohibits her against dealing in her property. The application was launched by the Asset Forfeiture Unit (AFU) of the National Prosecuting Authority. The court appointed curator yesterday attached the assets of Catharina Magrietha van Niekerk, a former employee of NT5 Management Services (Pty) Ltd.

Mrs Van Niekerk, a former general manager at NT5 Management Services, was, amongst others, responsible to market and maintain ongoing relationships with corporate and retail clients for the account of NT5 Management, generating invoices and running the Tshwane Youth Centre. Tshwane Youth Centre is an accommodation complex which consists of hostel buildings, flats, covered parking for motor vehicles and parking for busses. Van Niekerk allegedly managed to misappropriate more than R 7 million by creating the impression that she was the owner of the Tshwane Youth Centre. By invoicing them in respect of the board and lodging she was able to retain some of the payment of the invoices for herself.

The court appointed curator attached various moveable and immovable property. Amongst this a Toyato Fortuner, Opel Corsa, Nissan Bakkie, a variety of jewellery, a large amount of cash and a seizable amount of expensive furniture.

The criminal case against Van Niekerk has been postponed to 23 September 2009. She will appear in the Specialised Commercial Crimes Court in Pretoria on charges ranging from fraud and theft.

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