

# Media Statement



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**TO: ALL MEDIA**

**DATE: 18 JUNE 2021**

**RE: THEFT AND FRAUD CASE AGAINST FORMER JB MARKS LOCAL MUNICIPALITY POSTPONED**

The High Court of South Africa - North West Division; sitting in Ventersdorp Magistrates Court, postponed the case against the former Executive Mayor of JB Marks Local Municipality in Potchefstroom, Kgotsi Khumalo to 07 July 2021 for pre-trial conferencing.

The state is expected to put on record its readiness to proceed with the trial and also highlight issues that are on dispute with defence representatives.

Khumalo together with Cecil Henry and Mohau Shuping are facing eight charges of theft and fraud from the municipality funds. It is alleged that the North West University and the Programme for Community Development paid about R5 million into a trust account of an attorney for the use of specific projects by the municipality.

The attorney was then given instructions to effect various payments, which includes a R208 000 mayoral committee contribution towards the funeral of the late MEC for Agriculture, Duma Ndleleni, who passed away on 23 November 2018.

It was however, discovered that R200 000 was paid directly into the account of one of the accused. From this amount R64 218 was paid to an institution where Khumalo's relative was a student.

It is alleged that false invoices were generated to effect more fictitious payments. Further to this act of criminality, Khumalo allegedly instructed the attorney to make payment to an NGO which did not exist.

The three are still out on warning and are prohibited from contacting state witnesses.

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