

Media Statement



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TO: ALL MEDIA

DATE: 14 MARCH 2019

RE: VRYBURG MUNICIPAL MANAGER CONVICTED OF CORRUPTION

Eric Phukwana was convicted by the Vryburg Regional Court for various charges of fraud and corruption in contravention of the Prevention & Combating of Corrupt Activities Act (PRECCA) and the Municipal Finance Management Act, No. 56 of 2003 (MFMA) on Tuesday, 05 March 2019.

At the time of the commission of the offences, he was the Municipal Manager of Naledi Municipality in Vryburg. He awarded a tender for the establishment of RDP houses at Extension 25 & 28 Vryburg to a company called Khasu Engineering Services (Pty) Ltd to the value of R131 518 million without following proper procurement procedures in terms of the MFMA. After awarding the tender, Phukwana resigned from the municipality.

A total amount of R89 million was paid to Khasu Engineering by the municipality. The investigation pointed to the fact that the value on the ground was only R29 million. Thus, Khasu Engineering was paid R60 million for services that were not rendered. Phukwana later received gratification in the amount of R350 000, which was deposited into his account by Khasu. The matter has been postponed to 07 May 2019 for sentence proceedings.

Kind Regards,

Tembeka Mbadu

Senior Deputy Director of Public Prosecutions

DPP Mmabatho