

Zero tolerance stance on **fraud and corruption**

The South African Social Security Agency (SASSA) has adopted Zero Tolerance stance on fraud and corruption. The anti-fraud and corruption strategic approach focuses on fraud and corruption governance, prevention; detection; investigations and corrective actions/ resolutions.

On 09 February 2023, a collaboration between the SASSA Fraud Management and Compliance Department and Limpopo Directorate of Priority Crime Investigations (Hawks) resulted in the arrest of fifteen (15) persons including a former SASSA employee- who is currently a Ward Councillor, and a medical doctor. These persons allegedly recruited members of the public in the Jane Furse area who are in good health to apply for disability grants. The potential loss of the case is R312 480. 00, as these transactions were detected before processing.

Other outstanding suspects including a medical doctor are yet to be arrested.

During December 2022, eighty-two (82) suspicious fraudulent disability grants were detected at five (5) Local Offices in Gauteng Region. The monetary value of these suspicious transactions is yet to be determined as the investigation is ongoing.

On 03 February 2023, seventeen (17) persons including a former SASSA official were found guilty of fraud and other offences by the Bloemfontein Regional Court. The perpetrators operated in the Botshabelo area and sold fraudulent medical referral forms to members of the public. The judgment was handed down as follows:

One former SASSA official was found guilty on three counts and sentenced to four years imprisonment.

One member of the public who issued fraudulent medical referral letters was sentenced to 10 years imprisonment.

Twelve social grant applicants were found guilty and received suspended sentences of three years, wholly suspended for five years. In addition, three grant applicants were found guilty and fined R 60000.00 or three years imprisonment, suspended for three years.

Fraud and Corruption Reporting Channels

- National Anti-Corruption Hotline: 0800 701 701 or 0800601011
- Email: Integrity@publicservicecorruptionhotline.org.za
- Website: www.publicservicecorruptionhotline.org.za
- Free Fax: 0800 204 965

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at the right time and place. NJALO!*

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