



## Employees defraud RSL over 1,823 million

**Leribe – 29<sup>th</sup> August 2023** – A suspended Revenue Services Lesotho (RSL) employee namely, Nxetane Kheswa, and two former employees, Ngaka Leteba and Ramaqele Khechane appeared before the Leribe Magistrate Court charged with False or Misleading Statements and Money Laundering.

They are charged with 22 counts of contravening section (70) (1) (A) of the Value Added Tax Act No.9 of 2001 read with section 70(1), (ii), (3)(a)(b) and (e) of the same Act. In the alternative, they are charged with 22 counts of contravening section 70(5) read with section 109 (3) of the Penal Code Act of 2010. They are also charged with contravening the provisions of section 25(1) (A) and (I) of the Money Laundering Act 2008 read with section 25 (2) of Money Laundering Act 2008 as amended by section 20 of the Money Laundering and Proceeds of Crime (Amendment) Act No.7 of 2016.

It is alleged that the first accused Nxetane Khewsa acting in concert and sharing a common intention or purpose with his former supervisors Ngaka Leteba and Ramaqele Khechane acquired, possessed, or used cash amounting to M 1,823,692.21 for personal gain from importers that were RSL Clients through falsifying their payment receipts in the RSL payment system which ultimately communicated false payments into the ASYCUDA world system (Goods clearance system) and thus allowing goods to pass through the border without import VAT paid.

Nxetana Kheswa was suspended from the RSL upon the launch of the investigations of this case while Ngaka Leteba and Ramaqele Khechane resigned in the midst of the investigations. If convicted on the above charges, the trio could face a cumulative sentence of 264 years imprisonment or a fine of M1, 188, 000.00 or both.

They appeared before Magistrate Mpotla Koaesa, and the case was prosecuted by Adv Lechesa Mahao while the Accused persons were represented by Adv Masoeu and Adv Malabulabu respectively. They were released on payment of a bail deposit of M5,000.00 each.

RSL is committed to the fight against fraud, money laundering and corruption in all its forms especially within its own ranks. Clients/taxpayers are urged to report suspected cases of corruption/theft by RSL employees through the toll-free fraud hotline number – 80022008 or email, [intelligence@rsl.org.ls](mailto:intelligence@rsl.org.ls).

For clarification, please contact RSL PR Desk: 52215781/5433

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