

Briewe - Letters

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BELANGRIK

Lesers word gevra om briewe kort en saaklik te hou. Skrywes wat lasterlik is, 'n party-politieke inhoud het of by implikasie 'n advertensie vir 'n besigheid bevat, kan ongelukkig nie gehuisves word nie.

Lesers word gevra om alle briewe te onderteken (al word 'n skuilnaam gebruik) EN HUL TELEFOONNUMMERS TE VOORSIEN.

• Die Rustenburg Herout vereenselwig hom nie noodwendig met menings wat uitgespreek word deur briëfskrywers en rubriëkskrywers nie.

IMPORTANT

Please keep your letters short and to the point. Letters which contain slander, party political propaganda or advertising for business concerns cannot be accommodated.

Please sign all letters (even where a non de plume is used) and SUPPLY YOUR TELEPHONE NUMBER.

• The Rustenburg Herald does not necessarily agree with the opinion expressed in letters and columns.

Article on alleged trade in municipal property – Rustenburg Police responds

The Editor

“Following an article published in Rustenburg Herald of 23 December 2011, with the heading: “Alleged trade in Municipal property – Police docket disappears” the South African Police Service would like to respond as follows in order to put the matter into its proper perspective and set the record straight.

The publication of the article by the Rustenburg Herald without seeking and affording the Police the opportunity to respond to such serious allegations is a clear violation of the law and journalism

ethics and shall be taken up with the relevant authorities. It is this kind of sensational reporting which continues to tarnish the image of the journalism profession and violate the right of access to information based on truth and facts.

The publication of the article has not only embarrassed the SAPS, but has made serious threats and malicious innuendos which are criminal in nature. It must be placed on record that there is, or never was, a missing docket as alleged. The article and the interviewers clearly created the perception that there was corruption or the obstruction of Justice by the Police which must be proven as this cannot be left unchallenged.

It is true that the complainant came to lay a formal complaint of theft at the Police station on 13 December 2011 at about 18:45 and also that they came again on 14 December 2011 about 17:30 to follow up on the case. On their arrival it transpired after the Crime Administration System was perused, that there was no record of an opened case and on follow up, the actual docket was found, but it was not yet registered on the computer (CAS) as is the procedure. While it is admitted that the Police on duty did not register the case immediately in the computer, it is a blatant lie to say that the docket had “disappeared”.

The Station Commander, Brig Dube immediately on recognizing that the docket was not registered, instructed that the case be registered as per Rustenburg CAS 695/12/2011 – Theft, and that the alleged stolen property be retrieved and suspects traced and arrested.

Furthermore, an internal investigation resumed to determine if any member was negligent in any way. Currently, two suspects, both employees of the Municipality, have been detained and are due to appear in Court very soon.

Brigadier SI Dube – Station Commander Rustenburg Police.

As far as Rustenburg Herald's reportage in the matter is concerned, we invite Brig Dube to point out to us on what his assumption is based that the article was a “clear violation of the law”. Disputable perhaps, but a “clear

violation of the law”? (Ed.)

To this letter which was also forwarded to him as Secretary of the Rustenburg Ratepayers Association, Mr Johan de Klerk, responded as follows:

The facts given to Rustenburg Herald before 22 December were correct at that stage and are still relevant as far as can be determined. To your response “the actual docket was found, but it was not yet registered on the computer (CAS) as is the procedure”, the following: The docket that was opened on 13 December 2011 by our member, Mr Makinita of Public Safety and myself is still missing to this day as we still don't have a Case Number for it. There seems to be some confusion here as it is clear that your response applies to the Case opened by Mr Makinita the following day – 695/12/2011 of 14 December 2011 and we therefore agree that this docket (695/12/2011) was never missing at all.

I however insist that the first, initial docket opened by a member of the RPPA, Mr Makinita of the Directorate Public Safety and myself, has gone missing and therefore the Case Number was lost. We have met with Brig Dube on 14, 15 and 19 December to inquire about this docket that was opened on 13 December and on all three occasions he admitted that the docket couldn't be found.

Johan de Klerk, Secretary RPPA

Once again the Rustenburg Police responded. This time Captain Elsabé Augoustides – Commander Corporate Communication Services:

“Mr de Klerk, there was indeed confusion about the initial registration of the docket when you first visited the SAPS. Unfortunately, your statement could not be utilised for the purposes of the “A1”- initial statement from the complainant, due to the fact that the property belongs to the Municipality. It was recommended that Mr Makinita's statement be obtained as the “A1” statement. Mr Makinita left the police station and the docket was not registered. He was phoned and requested to return to the police station. On his return CAS 695/12/2011 was registered”.

Capt Elsabé Augoustides

Standpunt

Wetgewing onnodig – kom ons doen ons werk...

Nee, die slagting op Suid-Afrikaanse paaie het nie noemenswaardig verbeter nie. Trouens, daar is waarskynlik meer as genoeg rede om aan te voer dat vanjaar se statistiek inderdaad veel slegter daar uitsien as vorige jare. En wie kan kwalik geneem word as iemand so voel? Is dit nie skrikwekkend as onderskeidelik 24 mense en 18 mense in twee afsonderlike gru-ongelukke sterf nie?

Sou die regverdig wees om die media daarvan te beskuldig dat hy die taxi-industrie teiken? Veral as in ag geneem word dat 'n skrikwekkende aantal ongelukke waarin minibus-taxis betrokke is, feitlik elke vakansieseisoen of langnaweek die lewens van dosyne onskuldige passasiers eis?

Is dit toeval dat ongelukke tussen minibus-taxis en swaar vragmotors deesdae al hoe meer op ons paaie gesien word? 'n Mens kan nie help om die indruk te kry dat ongeduld moontlik 'n groot rol hierin te speel het nie. Enigiemand wat gereeld op ons paaie is, sal sonder huiwering bevestig dat taxi-bestuurders nie vir hul geduld agter die stuurwiel bekend geword het nie...

Maar nee, die taxi-industrie is nie alleen te blameer vir die groot getalle ongelukke op Suid-Afrikaanse paaie nie. Dit is slegs by hoë uitsondering dat 'n mens selfs op die kortste roete kafee of vulstasie toe nie deur minstens 'n halfdosyn blatante verkeersoortredings gekonfronteer word nie.

Kan dit wees dat ons mense werklik so ongeduldig geword het dat ons nie meer vir mekaar of ons eie lewens omgee nie? Wat is dit wat ons jaag om so vinnig moontlik by die volgende bestemming aan te kom? Selfs al is ons net op pad huis toe of werk toe... Hoekom moet 'n groot persentasie Suid-Afrikaanse motoriste altyd haastig, altyd ongeduldig en altyd onverskillig wees? Kan dit wees dat alkoholmisbruik een van hierdie redes kan wees – maak alkohol 'n mens haastig agter die stuur of sommer net waaghalsig?

Om 'n lang storie kort te maak. Die eerste gerugte dat die Suid-Afrikaanse regering tans besig is met 'n proses om wetgewing te oorweeg wat die openbare advertensie van alkoholprodukte verbied, het vandeeweek die wenkbroue laat lig. Net soos daar 'n nagenoeg 10, 15 jaar gelede met die tabakbedryf gedoen is. Ja, oor tabak sal baie mense sekerlik steeds verskil maar of 'n mens dit nou wil weet of nie, dit is en bly 'n slegte gewoonte wat die gesondheid van ons mense en ons kinders bedreig.

Ander mense sal dieselfde voel oor alkohol, maar in sy moontlike gebrekkige oordeel meen hierdie skrywer dat daar 'n groot en belangrike verskil tussen 'n enkele sigaret en 'n enkele drankie is. Teen die agtergrond van die reuse Suid-Afrikaanse wyn-, bier en spiritueelbedryf, wonder 'n mens of die regering deur 'n verbod op alkoholverante advertensies nie die Suid-Afrikaanse ekonomie 'n kwaai knou gaan gee nie.

Hoekom nie liewers die staatskoffers aanvul deur behoorlike wetstoepassing op ons paaie standaardspraktyk te maak om vir alkohol- en ander oortreders 'n goeie voorbeeld te stel van wat met mense gebeur wat onder die invloed van drank agter 'n stuurwiel inskuif of hulle aan ander ootredings op ons paaie skuldig maak nie? Hoe lank kan dit neem voordat ons mense die boodskap kry? En hoeveel geld is daar nie in so 'n projek te maak nie? (Standpunt deur Waldie Volschenk, Coetzerstraat 13, Rustenburg).

Bekende bedrieër slaan weer toe

Die redakteur:

Ek het verlede jaar op 'n advertensie in die Rustenburg Herald gereageer wat “teëldienste” aanbied. Toe ek die kontaknommer 072 292 7433 skakel het 'n Willem geantwoord en my telefonies gekwoteer vir die lê van die teëls. Hy het 'n 50% deposito vereis wat ek onmiddellik kontant in sy rekening inbetaal het. Die rekeninghouer se van is Scheepers.

Hy sou op 19 Desember die teëls kom lê, maar daarna het hy verskeie

verskonings gehad en sedertdien het hy net verdwyn.

Ek het my bankbesonderhede vir hom gegee en hy het belowe dat hy my geld sou terugbetaal, maar tot nou het ek NIKS gekry nie. Hy antwoord ook nie as hy sien dit is my selnummer nie. Tot nou (7 Januarie) het ek geen teëls nie en my geld is weg!

Ek wil dit net graag onder lesers se aandag bring, want ek vermoed dat hy al baie mense op die manier ingeloopt het.

HJ Oosthuizen