

# PROJECT: KNOCKS AND SCAMS RARE BLUE CRANE BIRDS FOR SALE

# THE SCAM:

- Specialised Security Services (SSS) was informed by a member of the public on the 24th of May 2023 about Xolile Mnisi from Soshanguve, who is advertising a rare blue crane bird for sale for R2,000.00 on Gumtree South Africa.
- The advertiser claims to be Xolile Mnisi from Soshanguve and the number was called but nobody answered.
- The public is warned that this is probably a scam and to be aware of these advertisements.
- When the cell phone number in the advertisement is called no one answers the call goes to an electronic answering service.
- The Blue Crane is South Africa's national bird and is also known as the Paradise Crane or Stanley Crane.
- Blue Cranes have declined in numbers owing to habitat loss, poisoning and other factors.
- The population is stable, but the Blue Cranes are still listed as vulnerable on the IUCN Red List.



# The South African Government has enforced legal protection for the Blue Crane.

*It is illegal to own or trade Blue Crane birds without the necessary permits in place.*  To sell Blue Crane birds in South Africa, certain documents are required these ensure legal compliance and conservation of this endangered species.

The documents typically needed:

- CITES Permit: The Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) is an international agreement regulating endangered species' trade.
  - Selling Blue Crane birds requires a CITES permit, ensuring the trade is sustainable and does not harm wild populations.
  - The relevant environmental authorities in South Africa issue this permit.
- Captive Breeding Certificate:
  - Blue Cranes are protected under South African law and selling them usually requires proof that they were bred in captivity.
  - A captive breeding certificate is obtained by demonstrating that the birds were raised in a controlled environment, such as an approved breeding facility or aviculture centre.
  - This document helps prevent the illegal capture and trade of wild Blue Cranes.
- Veterinary Health Certificate:
  - A veterinary health certificate is necessary to ensure the birds are healthy and disease-free before selling Blue Crane birds.
  - A licensed veterinarian issues this document after thoroughly examining the birds, including tests for infectious diseases.
  - It helps prevent the spread of diseases and ensures the wellbeing of the birds and any potential buyers.
- Ownership and Origin Documentation:
  - To establish legal ownership and traceability, documentation demonstrating the origin of the Blue Crane birds is required.
  - This could include purchase invoices, transfer records, or breeding history documentation.
  - Establishing a clear chain of custody is essential to deter illegal trade and promote responsible ownership.
- Export/Import Permits (if applicable):
  - Additional export and import permits may be necessary if the Blue Crane birds are being sold internationally.
  - These permits ensure compliance with the relevant regulations in exporting and importing countries, further safeguarding the welfare and conservation of the species.
- Species Registration:
  - Blue Crane birds are a protected species in South Africa.
  - Registering the birds with the appropriate local or national authorities may be necessary to ensure legal compliance.
  - This registration helps monitor the trade and possession of Blue Cranes, contributing to their conservation.
- Remember that specific requirements and documentation may vary depending on local regulations, and it's always best to consult with the relevant authorities or a legal professional specializing in wildlife trade before attempting to sell Blue Crane birds.

In conclusion, falling victim to the allure of buying endangered wildlife on social media is morally wrong and perpetuates the exploitation and destruction of our planet's precious ecosystems.

Falling victim to a scammer selling these animals might be considered justice in its own right.

#### ANY PERSON WHO HAS ADDITIONAL INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT OUR SPECIALIST INVESTIGATOR: MR RIAAN CLOETE

Contact number: +27 60 850 3986 Email address: <u>riaanc@mikebolhuis.co.za</u>

#### **RELEVANT PREVIOUS PROJECTS:**

- <u>https://mikebh.link/ttxGtu</u>
- <u>https://mikebh.link/8WQ2Cj</u>
- <u>https://mailchi.mp/mikebolhuis.co.za/anti-poaching-project-abalone</u>
- <u>https://mailchi.mp/61936cee4e2a/project-abalone-smuggling</u>
- <u>https://mailchi.mp/mikebolhuis.co.za/anti-poaching-project-abalone</u>
- <u>https://mailchi.mp/mikebolhuis.co.za/anti-poaching-project-succulents</u>
- <u>https://us12.campaign-archive.com/?u=81ca5a64b7a954042f1ee5ab2&id=93151d4c1a</u>

## CONTACT MR MIKE BOLHUIS FOR ADVICE, RECOMMENDATIONS, SECURITY, PROTECTION, OR AN INVESTIGATION IF NEEDED.

### ALL INFORMATION WILL BE TREATED WITH THE UTMOST PRIVACY AND CONFIDENTIALITY.

FORWARD THIS DOCUMENT TO EVERYBODY.

Regards,

Mike Bolhuis Specialist Investigators into Serious Violent & Serious Economic Crimes PSIRA Reg. 1590364/421949 Mobile: +27 82 447 6116 E-mail: <u>mike@mikebolhuis.co.za</u> Fax: 086 585 4924 Follow us on Facebook to view our projects -<u>https://www.facebook.com/MikeBolhuisOfficial</u>

**EXTREMELY IMPORTANT:** All potential clients need to be aware that owing to the nature of our work as specialist investigators there are people who have been caught on the wrong side of the law - who are trying to discredit me - Mike Bolhuis and my organisation Specialised Security Services - to get themselves off the hook.

This retaliation happens on social media and creates doubt about our integrity and ability. Doubt created on social media platforms is both unwarranted and untrue.

We strongly recommend that you make up your minds concerning me and our organisation only after considering all the factual information - to the exclusion of hearsay and assumptions.

Furthermore, you are welcome to address your concerns directly with me should you still be unsatisfied with your conclusions. While the internet provides a lot of valuable information, it is also a platform that distributes a lot of false information. The distribution of false information, fake news, slander and hate speech constitutes a crime that can be prosecuted by law. Your own research discretion and discernment are imperative when choosing what and what not to believe.

**STANDARD RULES APPLY:** Upon appointment, we require a formal mandate with detailed instructions. Please take note that should you not make use of our services – you may not under any circumstance use my name or the name of my organisation as a means to achieve whatever end.

**POPI ACT 4 of 2013 South Africa:** Mike Bolhuis' "Specialised Security Services" falls under Section 6 of the act. Read more here: <u>https://mikebolhuis.co.za/popi-act-4-of-2013-section-6-mike-bolhuis/</u>



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