

### **PROJECT:**

# PROTECTION AGAINST SCAMS INVOLVING NEW BANKNOTES AND COINS IN SOUTH AFRICA

As South Africa introduces new banknotes and coins into circulation, it is crucial to be vigilant and protect yourself from potential scams orchestrated by syndicates. Criminals are constantly evolving their tactics to exploit unsuspecting individuals.

By understanding how these syndicates operate and taking preventive measures, you can safeguard yourself and your finances.

In this article, we will explore the modus operandi of these syndicates and provide practical tips on avoiding scams related to the new currency.

#### **UNDERSTANDING SYNDICATE OPERATIONS:**

Syndicates involved in scams related to new banknotes and coins employ various deceptive techniques to defraud innocent people.

Here are some common strategies they employ:

#### **COUNTERFEIT CURRENCY:**

- One of the most prevalent scams is the production and distribution of counterfeit banknotes and coins.
- These counterfeit notes often resemble genuine currency and can easily deceive unsuspecting individuals.

#### **MISINFORMATION AND DISTRACTION:**

- Scammers may pose as officials or representatives from financial institutions or government agencies.
- They might approach individuals, claiming that certain banknotes or coins are invalid or being withdrawn from circulation.
- This misinformation aims to create panic and prompt victims to exchange their legitimate currency for counterfeit or worthless alternatives.

#### **FALSE EXCHANGE SERVICES:**

- Syndicates may set up illegitimate exchange services offering to exchange old banknotes or coins for new ones.
- They may promise attractive exchange rates or claim to be authorised by the central bank.
- However, these services are designed to defraud individuals by substituting genuine currency with counterfeit notes or providing worthless coins.

#### PROTECTIVE MEASURES TO AVOID SCAMS:

Safeguarding yourself from scams involving new banknotes and coins requires a combination of awareness, caution, and adherence to security guidelines.

Here are some essential steps to follow:

#### **STAY INFORMED:**

- Regularly keep up to date with official announcements from reputable sources such as the South African Reserve Bank (SARB).
- Stay informed about the features of the new banknotes and coins, the security measures incorporated, and the specific guidelines issued by the authorities.

#### **VERIFY AUTHENTICITY:**

- Educate yourself about the security features of the new banknotes and coins, such as watermarks, holograms, unique serial numbers, and embedded security threads.
- Always verify the authenticity of any currency received, especially when dealing with large transactions or unfamiliar parties.

#### **DEAL WITH AUTHORISED INSTITUTIONS:**

- Only conduct currency exchanges and transactions with authorised banks, financial institutions, or recognised exchange services.
- Verify the credibility of the institution before engaging in any transaction.

#### **BE WARY OF UNSOLICITED APPROACHES:**

- Exercise caution when approached by individuals offering to exchange currency or claiming that certain notes or coins are invalid.
- Do not succumb to pressure or urgency; always take the time to verify the information with reliable sources before making any decisions.

#### **REPORT SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITIES:**

- If you come across any suspicious activity or encounter potential scams related to the new currency, report it immediately to the local authorities, the South African Police Service (SAPS), or the SARB.
- Your timely report can help protect others from falling victim to the same scams.

#### **ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:**

- The bank also uses a method called "look, feel and tilt" to establish that money is legitimate currency.
- South Africans will be able to see the Big Five watermark on both sides
  of the banknotes and when they tilt the banknote, they will see the word
  SARB and denomination on each banknote.
- They will also be able to "feel" the raised print on Madiba's face.
  - https://www.news24.com/fin24/economy/see-sas-newbanknotes-and-coins-which-celebrate-family-ties-whales-andhoney-bees-20230503-2
- https://mikebolhuis.co.za/wp-content/uploads/2023/05/Upgraded-Currency-Frequently-Asked-Questions-1.pdf

As South Africa introduces new banknotes and coins into circulation, it is vital to be vigilant and protect yourself from scams orchestrated by syndicates. By understanding how these syndicates operate and following preventive measures, you can minimise the risk of becoming a victim.

Stay informed, verify authenticity, deal with authorised institutions, exercise caution, and report any suspicious activities promptly.

Together, we can create a safer environment and thwart the efforts of scammers, ensuring a secure and trustworthy financial system for all.

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,

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**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: <a href="https://mikebolhuis.co.za/popi-act-4-of-2013-section-6-mike-bolhuis/">https://mikebolhuis.co.za/popi-act-4-of-2013-section-6-mike-bolhuis/</a>



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You are receiving this email to inform and keep you up to date with violent and/or economic crimes. This is important to enable you to inform and protect your loved ones and everyone you know.

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