

PROJECT: PUPPY/PET SCAMS URGENT WARNING TO THE PUBLIC!

Cybercriminals are financially exploiting vulnerable pet-loving South Africans!

SSS has a current case of a pure-bred puppy advertised for R5,800.00. The buyers have paid more than R100,000.00 to date for this puppy. We receive many such cases and it is essential to realise that this is becoming a very serious problem.

Pet scams involve fake listings and websites offering adorable pets at seemingly reasonable prices.

To deceive people, scammers create sophisticated fake websites with testimonials, reviews, and contact information.

THE NATURE OF PET SCAMS AND FAKE WEBSITES TOGETHER WITH UNTRUE LISTINGS:

- Pet scams occur when scammers create fake listings or websites offering adorable pets for sale or adoption at seemingly reasonable prices.
- Scammers create sophisticated fake websites that appear legitimate, complete with testimonials, reviews, and contact information.
- They also use fake pet listings on reputable online marketplaces in order to deceive people.
- We have found many recent pets scam websites:

centerpointpawslogistics.com	Web Com Com. LTD.	dba WebNic.cc
 aleatoryconcepts.com 	Web Com Com. LTD.	dba WebNic.cc
christtourking.com	PDR LTD. dba Pub. DomainRegistry.com	
 staffycentral.com 	Web Com Com. LTD.	dba WebNic.cc
dogecoinshope.com	Web Com Com. LTD.	dba WebNic.cc
autocentrumby.com	Web Com Com. LTD.	dba WebNic.cc
chemicosupplier.com	Web Com Com. LTD.	dba WebNic.cc
bestonlinechems.com	Web Com Com. LTD.	dba WebNic.cc
sugartradespolka.com	Web Com Com. LTD.	dba WebNic.cc
uspdexpress.com	Web Com Com. LTD.	dba WebNic.cc
eurotradinghamburg.com	Web Com Com. LTD.	dba WebNic.cc
davidcalaveiras.com	Web Com Com. LTD.	dba WebNic.cc
 arkaizpegurrak-sl.com 	Web Com Com. LTD.	dba WebNic.cc
 mestro-ultralogistics.com 	Web Com Com. LTD.	dba WebNic.cc
ghostar0recon.com	PDR LTD. dba Pub. DomainRegistry.com	
 boomventureslondonltd.com 	Web Com Com. LTD.	dba WebNic.cc
fuzzydevonrex.com	Web Com Com. LTD.	dba WebNic.cc
cramptonukltd.com	Web Com Com. LTD.	dba WebNic.cc

SSS has identified South African individuals actively involved on websites and cannot reveal any names or further details at this point.

Our investigation is ongoing and we do not wish to compromise it at this stage.

MODUS OPERANDI:

Emotional Manipulation:

- Scammers play on the emotions of potential pet owners, knowing that many people are eager to welcome a new furry friend into their homes.
- They use heartwarming stories and emotional language to create a sense of urgency and excitement.

Payment Requests:

- Once a victim expresses interest in buying or adopting the pet, the scammer requests payment upfront.
- These payments may be for the pet itself, shipping fees, insurance, or other related expenses.

No Pet Delivery:

- After receiving the payment, the scammer may promise to deliver the pet but will often come up with excuses to delay the delivery.
- In the end, the pet never arrives, and the scammer disappears.

Avoiding In-Person Visits:

• Scammers usually avoid in-person visits or inspections of the pet, using various excuses to prevent potential buyers from meeting the animal before the transaction.

Reporting and Awareness:

- It's essential to raise awareness about pet scams to protect potential victims.
- Encourage people to report suspicious ads, websites, or communications to the appropriate authorities and platforms.

Research and Verification:

• Advise potential pet owners to do thorough research before making any payments.

• They should verify the seller's or rescue organisation's legitimacy and insist on meeting the pet in person before making any transactions.

Adopting from Shelters:

- These adoptions provide a safer and more ethical way to bring a new pet into the family.
- Encourage people to consider adopting pets from reputable animal shelters or rescue organisations.

Red Flags:

• Educate the public about common red flags that may indicate a pet scam, such as sellers demanding payment only through untraceable methods (like wire transfers or gift cards), prices that are too good to be true, and reluctance to provide verifiable contact information.

Report Suspicious Activity:

If you suspect that you or someone you know has been targeted by Puppy Scammers or any other cyber-criminal activity, report it immediately to Mr Chris Joubert at Mike Bolhuis Cybercrime unit.

Mr CHRIS JOUBERT

Contact number: +27 67 306 4599 Email address: <u>http://chrisj@mikebolhuis.co.za</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.

You may forward this document and share it with as many people as possible.

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 https://www.facebook.com/MikeBolhuisOfficial

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>

SSS TASK TEAM: https://mikebh.link/Task-Team-2023

SSS CYBERCRIME UNIT: <u>https://mikebh.link/CyberTeam</u>





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Our mailing address is:

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