

# PROJECT: **FAKE VISAS AND ORGANISED CRIME IN SOUTH AFRICA IMPORTANT WARNING TO THE PUBLIC** (PART 1)

South Africa grapples with a two-pronged attack: the surge of fake visas and organised crime rings exploiting vulnerable individuals seeking legitimate documentation.

This project sheds light on these widespread scams, how they operate, and the devastating consequences for victims. It also exposes the sinister role of organised crime networks.

### IT IS CRITICAL THAT YOU READ OUR FOLLOW-UP PROJECT, EXPOSING SUCH AN INDIVIDUAL SELLING THESE DOCUMENTS.

### **MODUS OPERANDI:**

- Individuals seeking South African visas often fall victim to imposters posing as Department of Home Affairs or embassy/consulate officials.
- These con artists promise faster processing for hefty fees (R500.00 - R100,000.00+).
- Victims, believing they are dealing with legitimate authorities, hand over documents and pay the requested amount.
- They receive a fake visa within a week, which can lead to arrest and legal issues upon departing from or arriving in the country they travelled to.

## **CONSEQUENCES:**

- Scammers often scare their victims into staying silent.
- This keeps victims from going to the police, which allows the scams to keep happening.
- Apprehended under Article 49 of the Prevention and Combating of Trafficking in Persons Act No. 7 of 2013 for possessing fraudulent visas, victims may be offered the disappearance of their case in exchange for a bribe.
- This blatant corruption undermines the justice system and fosters an environment of impunity for the perpetrators.

## **ORGANISED CRIME INVOLVEMENT:**

- Beyond individual scams, organised crime syndicates exploit undocumented foreigners with fake visas and asylum documents.
- These rings prey on aspirations for a better life, promising safe passage and refuge for exorbitant fees.
- Upon arrival, victims are trapped in forced labour to repay fabricated debts.

## **GOVERNMENT AND JUDICIAL INFILTRATION:**

- These criminal networks have infiltrated the South African government and judicial systems.
- Corrupt officials within government, law enforcement, and the courts collude with them, allowing for the smooth operation of fraudulent schemes, including strategic case withdrawals and paperwork manipulation.

## SSS RESPONSE AND INVESTIGATION:

- SSS has identified a network of suspects within these sectors linked to organised crime activities.
- Investigations are ongoing to expose the infiltration network and bring perpetrators to justice.
- SSS is collaborating with reputable SAPS Specialised Units to dismantle these criminal networks.
- The rampant fake visa scams and involvement in organised crime necessitate public awareness, strong law enforcement, and systemic reforms.
- Vigilance is crucial for both citizens and foreign nationals.
- Strengthened efforts are needed to combat corruption and dismantle criminal networks.

## **OBTAINING A LEGITIMATE VISA:**

- Identify the Correct Visa:
  - There are various visa types for South Africa (tourism, business, study, etc.).
  - The Department of Home Affairs website has a Visa Finder to help you determine the appropriate visa for your purposes.
  - Here is how to locate the Visa Finder:
    - Go to the Department of Home Affairs website: <u>https://www.dha.gov.za/</u>
    - Click on the "Immigration" tab.
    - On the dropdown menu, select "Visa".
    - You should see a section titled "Types of Visas."
    - This will help you identify the most suitable visa for your needs.
- Check Eligibility Requirements:

- Each visa type has specific eligibility requirements.
- Make sure you meet all the criteria before applying.
- The Department of Home Affairs website will detail these requirements for each visa type.
- The documents needed will vary depending on the visa type.
- The department's website will provide a checklist for each visa category.
- Standard documents may include:
  - Valid passport.
  - Completed application form.
  - Proof of travel arrangements (flights, accommodation).
  - Proof of sufficient funds for your stay.
  - Letters of invitation (if applicable).
- There are two main ways to apply for a South African visa:
  - Online:
    - The Department of Home Affairs offers an eVisa system for certain visa categories.
    - Check the website to see if your chosen visa is available for online application.
  - Embassy or Consulate:
    - If an eVisa is not available, contact the South African embassy or consulate in your home country.
    - They will guide you through the application process and submission requirements.
- Fees and Processing Times:
  - Be prepared to pay visa application fees.
  - Processing times can also vary depending on the visa type and workload.
  - The department's website should provide information on costs and processing times.

## **IMPORTANT!**

Trust official sources only. Avoid third-party services that promise expedited processing or guarantees.

- Apply well in advance of your planned travel date to allow for processing time.
- If you have any questions or require further clarification, contact the

Department of Home Affairs or the South African embassy/consulate in your home country.

## **RELEVANT NEWS ARTICLES:**

• <u>https://www.interpol.int/en/Crimes/Counterfeit-currency-and-security-documents/Identity-and-travel-document-fraud</u>

## Specialised Security Services invites the public to the Mike Bolhuis Daily Projects WhatsApp Group.

*This group is important in delivering insights into the latest crime trends, awareness, warnings and the exposure of criminals.* 

# HOW TO JOIN THE MIKE BOLHUIS DAILY PROJECTS WHATSAPP GROUP:

- Simply follow the link to our dedicated WhatsApp group:

   <u>https://chat.whatsapp.com/Dys4JLOFTXCBgXBdXeEvzU</u>
- "JOIN" to ensure you never miss our daily updates.
- You will receive automatic notifications as soon as a new project is placed.

## CONTACT MR MIKE BOLHUIS FOR SAFETY AND SECURITY MEASURES, PROTECTION, OR AN INVESTIGATION IF NEEDED.

#### ALL INFORMATION RECEIVED WILL BE TREATED IN THE STRICTEST CONFIDENTIALITY AND EVERY IDENTITY WILL BE PROTECTED.

You may forward this document.

Regards,

Mike Bolhuis Specialist Investigators into Serious Violent, Serious Economic Crimes & Serious Cybercrimes 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/sss-task-team

SSS CYBERCRIME UNIT: https://mikebh.link/sss-cyber-team





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