

FSCA Press Release

18 November 2024

FSCA warns the public against Mr Johannes Lodewicus Du Plessis (Du Plessis).

The Financial Sector Conduct Authority (FSCA) warns the public against conducting financial services business with Du Plessis.

The FSCA received information that Du Plessis, through his entity JLD Investments CC (JLD Investments) allegedly offered to render financial services and promised unrealistic returns of up to 36% per annum to members of the public. Furthermore, Du Plessis allegedly intentionally and incorrectly misrepresented himself as a representative or broker for Sanlam Private Wealth (Pty) Ltd (Sanlam Private Wealth). Sanlam Private Wealth has informed the FSCA that Du Plessis is not authorised to act as its representative. Du Plessis and JLD Investments are not authorised financial services providers (FSP).

The FSCA is currently investigating these allegations. The purpose of the investigation is to establish whether Du Plessis and JLD Investments are contravening and/or have contravened financial sector laws, including conducting unregistered financial services business. The investigation is not completed and the FSCA has made no findings yet. This public warning should not be construed as a communication of the findings of the FSCA.

To avoid unnecessary risk, the public should not accept any financial advice, assistance or investment offers from persons who are not authorised by the FSCA. Authorised FSPs are required to display their authorisation (FSP number) on their documentation. The public should avoid paying any funds to a person who cannot provide their FSP number.

Members of the public should always check:

- that an entity or individual is authorised by the FSCA to provide financial products and services, including for giving recommendations about how to invest.
- what category of advice the person is registered to provide, as there are instances where companies or people are registered to provide basic advice for a low-risk product and then offer advice on far more complex and risky products.
- that the FSP number utilised by the entity or individual offering financial services matches to name of the FSP on the FSCA database.

One of the following methods may be used to confirm the status and FSP number of a service provider or a person that claims to be an authorised service provider:

- 1) Toll-free number: 0800 110 443
- 2) Online search for authorised financial institution by license category:
<https://www.fsc.co.za/Regulated%20Entities/Pages/List-Regulated-Entities-Persons.aspx>

Executive Committee:

Commissioner: U. Kamlana | **Deputy Commissioners:** A. Ludin | K. Gibson | F. Badat

- 3) Online search for a financial institution that is an authorised FSP in terms of the FAIS Act: https://www.fsca.co.za/Fais/Search_FSP.htm

ENDS

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