

FSCA Press Release

30 November 2022

FSCA warns the public against Classic Financial Services One (Pty) Ltd and its director, Mr. Jacobus Stephanus Geldenhuis

The Financial Sector Conduct Authority (FSCA) warns the public to act with caution when conducting any financial services related business with Classic Financial Services One (Pty) Ltd (Classic) and its director, Mr. Jacobus Stephanus Geldenhuis (Mr. Geldenhuis).

The FSCA wishes to inform the public that neither Classic nor Mr. Geldenhuis are authorised to provide financial advice or render intermediary services in terms of section 8 of the Financial Advisory and Intermediary Services Act, 2002 (FAIS Act).

The FSCA has conducted a search and seizure operation at the premises of Classic on 12 October 2022, in terms of the Financial Sector Regulation Act of 2017 (FSR Act). The search and seizure operation is part of an ongoing investigation by the FSCA into the business activities of Classic and Mr. Geldenhuis. The investigation was initiated after the FSCA received complaints. The evidence that the FSCA has collected to date indicates that Mr. Geldenhuis may be conducting a Ponzi scheme.

The FSCA is cooperating with the Financial Intelligence Centre (the FIC) who issued directives to two banks to freeze funds in the bank accounts of Classic. We took this step to protect possible funds of investors.

The matter was also reported to the National Prosecuting Authority's (the NPA) and more specifically its Asset Forfeiture Unit in Johannesburg (the AFU). The AFU successfully applied for a preservation order for the funds in question. The collaboration between the FIC, AFU and the FSCA has led to the safeguarding of some of the clients' funds. The FSCA extends its gratitude to the FIC and NPA (AFU) for their assistance.

Executive Committee:

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

The FSCA will now examine the evidence, interview the parties involved and complete the investigation. Clients of Classic are encouraged to contact the FSCA's Business Centre through the following link: <https://www.fsca.co.za/Pages/Contact-Us.aspx>

Members of the public should always ensure that an entity or individual is suitably authorised by the FSCA to provide the specific financial product or service being offered. Check this before any purchase or investment is made, by one of the following:

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