

FSCA Press Release

09 April 2025

FSCA issues public warning against website impersonating Viviers Brokers CC

The Financial Sector Conduct Authority (FSCA) warns the public to be cautious when conducting financial services business through a website purporting to be associated with financial service providers (FSP) Viviers Brokers CC (Viviers Brokers) (FSP 2246).

It was brought to the attention of the FSCA that the individuals behind the website are unlawfully using the details of Viviers Brokers, to solicit funds from members of the public. Members of the public who access the website in question - www.viviersbrokers.com - are presented with the opportunity to invest in retirement annuities and unit trusts, amongst others. There is also a trading platform, where members of the public can trade in currency pairs, commodities and indices.

Viviers Brokers have confirmed that it is not associated with the website, or the registrant of the website. It has confirmed that it does not own a website, nor does it make use of a website to market its services.

The FSCA points out that offering financial products and services in South Africa requires its authorisation. The individuals being website are not licensed under any financial sector law to provide financial products or financial services in South Africa. The individuals behind the website did not respond to the FSCA's communication

The public is urged to act with care when investing their funds. There are many fraudsters operating scams, and the number is growing. South Africans lose millions of rands every year to fraudsters. Illegal operations are sometimes well-disguised as legitimate operations. The public is advised to be on the lookout for the tell-tale danger signs when dealing with persons offering attractive investment opportunities. These red flags include:

- Unrealistic returns
- Offers on social media platforms
- Requirements to pay for services upfront
- Requirements to pay more money to have your investments returned
- Requirements to pay for training
- Claims that you must act and pay urgently i.e. creating a sense of urgency
- Vague information about the investment product.

Executive Committee:

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

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.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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