

The FSCA warns the public against Niel Hanekom

The Financial Sector Conduct Authority (FSCA) would like to warn the public against a person called Niel Hanekom (Hanekom), after receiving a complaint from a member of the public who received a message from Hanekom.

Hanekom claims that he is a tracing agent from the FSCA and is able to assist retrenched and former employees of corporate and industrial environments who are owed undeclared unemployment benefit funds, undeclared leave pay, retirement funds and unclaimed insurance policies. Hanekom also mentions that he has noticed that the complainant was owed some money by the UIF and has retrenchment funds.

Hanekom is not employed and/or contracted to the FSCA in any manner and therefore does not have the authority to offer any kind of services under the disguise of a relationship between himself and the FSCA. The public must also take note of the fact that it is not the FSCA's mandate to trace UIF benefits, undeclared leave pays and unclaimed insurance policies.

Members of the public should always check that an entity or individual is registered with the FSCA to provide Financial Advisory & Intermediary Services and what category of advice it is that the entity is registered to provide. There are instances where persons are registered to provide basic advisory services for a low risk product and then offer services of a far more complex and risky nature.

The FSCA again reminds consumers who wish to conduct financial services with an institution or person to check beforehand with the FSCA on either the toll free number (0800 110 443) or on the website www.fsca.co.za as to whether or not such institution or person is authorised to render financial services, and in particular which financial products they are licensed for.

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