

FSCA Press Release

11 July 2025

FSCA warns public warning against Portcullis Securities (Pty) Ltd, PCS Holdings (Pty) Ltd and Mr. Mark Kretschmar impersonating Freedom Capital (Pty) Ltd

The Financial Sector Conduct Authority (FSCA) warns the public to be cautious when conducting financial services business with Portcullis Securities (Pty) Ltd (Portcullis Securities), PCS Holdings (Pty) Ltd (PCS Holdings) and Mr. Mark Kretschmar (Mr. Kretschmar).

It has come to the attention of the FSCA that Portcullis Securities, PCS Holdings and Mr. Kretschmar are using the financial services provider (FSP) number of Freedom Capital (Pty) Ltd (Freedom Capital) (FSP number 27030) to solicit funds from members of the public for investment purposes.

While the FSCA does not comment on the specifics of Portcullis Securities, PCS Holdings and Mr. Kretschmar's business, it must be noted that Portcullis Securities, PCS Holdings and Mr. Kretschmar are not authorised in terms of any financial sector law to provide financial services to the public in South Africa.

Freedom Capital confirmed that it is not associated with Portcullis Securities, PCS Holdings and Mr. Kretschmar. Portcullis Securities, PCS Holdings and Mr. Kretschmar failed to respond to FSCA queries.

To avoid unnecessary risk, the public should not accept financial advice, assistance, or investment offers from individuals or entities not authorised by the FSCA. Authorised financial services providers must clearly display their authorisation status in their documentation. If this is not present, it is advised to further investigate before making any payments.

The public is strongly urged to exercise caution when considering investment or trading offers on social media platforms or any unsolicited offers.

It is highly recommended that the public verify:

- 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

Executive Committee:

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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.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

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Enquiries: Financial Sector Conduct Authority
Email address: Communications@fsca.co.za
Telephone: 0800 203 722