



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Umalusi condemns websites that sell FAKE matric certificates

It has come to the attention of Umalusi that there are websites that sell fake matric certificates to the public. Umalusi has identified the following websites <http://fakematricandcertificate.co.za/> and <http://www.registermatriccertificates.co.za/> that are involved in this illegal activity. This is illegal and constitutes a criminal offense which is punishable by law. Umalusi condemns this fraudulent activity in the strongest possible terms.

The misrepresentation of qualifications causes potential damage to the image of Umalusi, the country's education system and by extension undermines government's efforts to eradicate corruption. Therefore, all members of the public are urged to vigilantly report these unscrupulous individuals and entities to the South African Police Service or alternatively report them anonymously on Umalusi's national fraud hotline **0800 000 889**.

All public and private entities that want to ascertain the credentials of their employees are advised to visit Umalusi website www.umalusi.org.za and go to the verification page for the names of verification agencies that have contracts with Umalusi. Various verification agencies can be used for the verification of qualifications issued by Umalusi. Please note that verification agencies charge varying fees for verification services. You are therefore advised to request prices from more than one agency before requesting the verification of your qualifications.

In his response to the alarming increase in the number of fraudulent qualifications, the CEO of Umalusi, Dr Mafu Rakometsi, said "it is appalling that the people who manage these websites continue to do it with impunity. I want to assure South Africans that the law will be extremely harsh to those who are found guilty of producing fake matric certificates."

As the Council for Quality Assurance in General and Further Education and Training, Umalusi is tasked with the responsibility of developing and managing a sub-

framework of qualifications and quality assure it in accordance with the *National Qualifications Framework Act No 67 of 2008 and the General and Further Education and Training Quality Assurance Act No 58 of 2001*.

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