



**MINISTRY OF TOURISM  
OFFICE OF THE DEPUTY MINISTER (ODM)  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA**

**Deputy Minister Mahlalela condemns the use of his name in a malicious social media campaign**

**26 July 2020**

It has come to the attention of the Deputy Minister of Tourism, Hon Fish Mahlalela, MP, that there is a fake and malicious message circulating on social media about a convicted young man who is purported to be the Deputy Minister's son.

The young man is alleged in the message to have been scamming people, corrupting officials and threatening them, using his father's (the Deputy Minister's) name. He has apparently been convicted of house robbery and currently serving a prison sentence of 23 years at Barberton Medium B correctional centre.

The Deputy Minister wishes to put it on record that he has no such a son, nor has any of his children been convicted of any crime in the past or recently. Even at the time when he was in exile pursuing a liberation struggle for just and democratic South Africa anchored on the rule of law, far away from his family, his children were never involved in any crime of any sort.

The Deputy Minister will not be distracted by this malicious act which is clearly intended to damage his integrity and good name, a name which is well documented in the service of the people. He will continue to focus on his area of deployment and on his civic duty in general to advance the call for a better life for all the people of our country.

**For enquiries please contact:**

**Linkie Mohlala**

Cell: (0) 83 236 7899

**Office of the Deputy Minister**