

NATIONAL OFFICE

Building 10
Riverview Office Park
100 River View Park Street
Halfway Gardens
Midrand 1686

Tel: 010 001 8500



4 December 2024

Media Release**LEGAL PRACTICE COUNCIL WELCOMES THE BANNING OF ATTORNEY, MR ZUKO NONXUBA**

The Legal Practice Council (LPC) welcomes the decision by the Western Cape High Court to strike Mr Zuko Nonxuba off the roll following a slew of misconduct allegations against him.

This decision emanates from an application brought by the LPC after it became aware of the serious allegations leveled against Mr Nxuba. These include allegations that he misappropriated hundreds of millions of rands paid into his trust account that were due to his former clients after successfully litigating against the Department of Health in matters relating to medical malpractice.

As part of fulfilling its constitutional mandate, the LPC followed all due processes to ensure that Mr Nonxuba's victims finally get justice, despite Mr Nonxuba trying to frustrate the process with frivolous court appeals.

In its judgment handed down on December 4 2024, the court agreed with the LPC's case and struck Mr Nonxuba off the roll. This means that he will not be allowed to practice as an attorney, and the funds that he defrauded from his former clients was handed over to the Legal Practice Fidelity Funds (LPFF) who are assisting the beneficiaries to be compensated, as the LPC's role is mainly the investigations of the complaints and disciplinary process.

Commenting on the court outcome, LPC Executive Officer Ms Charity Nzuza said, "This judgment reaffirmed our long-held position, that where there is a case to answer, the LPC will ensure legal practitioners are held accountable. This well publicized case also demonstrates that the LPC will not hesitate to act in protecting the public against unscrupulous legal practitioners. While we cannot find joy in having any legal practitioner barred from practising, Mr Nonxuba's conduct warrants the punishment as found by the courts."

The LPC continues to fulfil its mandate of protecting vulnerable members of the public from some opportunistic legal practitioners.

Thus far, the Legal Practice Council has registered and/or opened complaints to a total number of 11 073 complaints, while it has closed/finalized 11 167 complaints from January 2024 to 21 September 2024.

“We appreciate the challenges that we face in dealing with different cases, just from January to September this year, the LPC received 7 589 complaints of serious nature including account regularities and overcharging clients but what I always commend about the LPC team is how we put people who rely on us for justice first. Seeing a court judgement against one troubling legal practitioner Mr Nonxuba is indeed a validation to us that our work is recognised, and the impact is always immense and fulfilling to the LPC team”, Ms Nzuza alludes.

During the period of January 2024 to 21 September 2024, over 120 legal practitioners were either struck – off the Roll or suspended from the Roll of Legal Practitioners, in order to protect the public against any misconduct.

Media contact:

Kabelo Letebele

Senior Manager: Communications and Stakeholder Engagement

Tel: +27 (0) 87 898 7474

Email: kabelol@lpc.org.za