

Special Tribunal dismisses freeze order appeal

The Special Tribunal has dismissed an application by beneficiaries of the National Lotteries Commission (NLC) to reconsider a preservation order granted to the Special Investigating Unit (SIU) against them.



Image source: Sergii Ghatiuk – 123RF.com

The beneficiaries also failed in their bid to have the SIU's application to have the grant funding reviewed and set aside.

The beneficiaries – through non-profit organisation Inqaba Yokulinda – allegedly pocketed at least R15m out of at least R19m in NLC funding which was earmarked for the construction of athletics tracks in two provinces.

Some R2.5m of that money is alleged to have been paid into the account of a law firm for the purchase of a R27m luxury home owned by former NLC board chairperson Alfred Ntshengedzeni Nevhutanda while the rest of the money allegedly bought luxury vehicles, paid off loan debts and paid for a R58,000 spa day, among other things.

The SIU had obtained the preservation order against the beneficiaries in February last year and preserved two Mercedes Benz AMG vehicles, an Audi A3, a Honda Jazz and residential home in Zwartkop.



SIU, AFU obtain freeze order linked to lotteries commission probes

16 Jan 2023



Some of those linked to the scandal include:

- Inqaba Yokulinda CEO Buyisiwe Khoza
- CEO of IT company Unicus, Jabulani Sibanda
- Acting Athletics South Africa (ASA) CEO, Tshifhiwa Terrence Magogodela
- Former NLC board chairperson, Alfred Ntshengedzeni Nevhutanda

In the application for reconsideration of the preservation order, Judge Soma Naidoo said the applicants have not presented any facts which may prompt the tribunal to reconsider the preservation order.

“In my view, the SIU had established a prima facie case for the grant of the preservation order. Additionally, there are no facts that have been presented in the reconsideration application, which, if placed before the Tribunal on 14 February 2022, would have caused it to refuse the application for an interdict/ preservation order,” Naidoo said.

For more, visit: <https://www.bizcommunity.com>