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## Free State warns public of social media job scam

The Free State Provincial Government has warned members of the public not to fall victim to a social media scammer, who is promising people jobs in the provincial government.



 $\bigcirc$  zimmytws – <u>123RF.com</u>

The provincial government said a social media user by the name of "Mpho Gift" is said to be soliciting money and other favours from social media users claiming that he is from the Office of the Premier.

According to the reports, the individual requests money, which in some cases amounts to about R8,000, from unsuspecting victims promising them placement in the provincial government.

"The Office of the Premier would like to warn our people that this is but a scam. This individual is running the risk of facing harsh punishment from the criminal justice system, and is advised to refrain from his illicit activities.

"We would like to place it on record that government posts are advertised in the local and national newspapers, other media platforms as well as the Free State Provincial Government website.

"We would also like to emphasise that no government official or any other person is allowed to solicit or accept a bribe in

exchange of job placements. Should our people come across such individuals, they are advised to report them immediately to the law enforcement authorities," the Free State provincial government said in a statement.

The provincial government said it has formal procedures, requirements and proper channels that it follows when undergoing recruitment processes.

"The Free State Provincial Government would never ask for a fee or a certain amount of money in order for us to give our people jobs. We will be approaching the law enforcement authorities for further direction on this matter," the provincial government said.

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