

Bogus Motlanthe tries to bribe 'friends' on Facebook

A person pretending to be Deputy President Kgalema Motlanthe on Facebook has been trying to solicit bribes from members of the public, Motlanthe's office confirmed last week.



Kgalema Motlanthe (Image: GCS)

"This impostor, on Facebook, asked someone to pay him in [United Kingdom] pounds to qualify for business and contracts," Motlanthe's spokesman Thabo Masebe said.

The fake Motlanthe asked his Facebook friend for an amount of £450 pounds (about R7 200), which he found odd.

"This person then contacted us at the Presidency to ask if this might be possible and we told him that he was dealing with someone who is posing as Motlanthe," Masebe said.

The matter was reported to Facebook but it was unclear how long it would take for the account to be closed.

Masebe said the account appeared to be a recent creation, which accumulated at least five thousand friends in about two weeks.

The Sowetan newspaper reported that Police ministry spokesman Zweli Mnisi said impersonating another person in any form was a crime.

He also revealed that the state passed the National Cyber Security Policy Framework Act to address the matter.

Source: Sapa via I-Net Bridge

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