

Heavy sentences for Papi Mokoena co-accused

October 26, 2012 | Filed under News | Posted by editor

Mzwandile Gailord Silwana (Accused 3) was employed as the Executive Director of Strategy and Transformation at the MLM in 2001. He became the Chief Operations Officer in 2004. He was charged with fraud and money laundering and received a 10 year prison sentence. He received another 10-year sentence for fraud.

Accused number four, Zongezile Adam Zumane, the then speaker of MLM was found guilty of 19 counts of fraud and money laundering totalling to R477 995. 99. He was sentenced to eight years for fraud and six years for money laundering.

Accused number six, Motlalepule Jacob Thithi, was a political adviser to the mayor and acting chief of staff. He was sentenced to eight years for fraud and eight years for corruption and money laundering.

The accused seven, eight and nine are Kegomodicoe Retlathola Lekone, Keabecoe Gaopeleloe Lekone and Laetitia Gladness Confidence Hoffman (9). Keabecoe and Gaopeleloe are twin brothers and local businessmen. Hoffman was employed as a personal assistant and logistic administrator to Mokoena. They were all sentenced to eight years for fraud and six years for money laundering.

Evodia Lena Kok who worked as the secretary to the speaker was accused number 10. She was sentenced to seven years for fraud and six years for money laundering.

Accused number 11 was Buyelwa Khethelo, a businesswoman who is involved in the tourism industry. She is also the owner of accused 16, Rhythm and Blues Enterprise, which was fined R50 000. Khetelo was sentenced to seven years for fraud and five years for money laundering: Givenchy Lidia Hoffman was a secretary and personal assistance in the office of the city manager; she was accused 12. Hoffman was sentenced to seven years for fraud and five years for money laundering.

The last accused was the municipality's director of an enterprise Brigitte Silwana. She was sentenced to seven years for fraud and six years for money laundering and fraud.

Lawyers, Ntsikelelo Majola acting on behalf of accused 7,8,11,12 and 16 and Pieter Nel representing 3,4,6,9,10 and 17, have challenged the judgement against their clients and indicated that they will appeal at the Supreme Court of Appeal (SCA). Judge Albert Kruger delivered the sentence.

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- **Former Mangaung mayor acquitted**
- 18 October 2012 14:21 [Tweet1](#)
- Mangaung's former executive mayor, his wife and the municipality's former manager have been acquitted of a string of charges in the Free State High Court.
- Papi Mokoena and his wife Granny, and former municipal manager Mojalefa Matlole were arrested in 2005 in one of the biggest corruption cases ever seen in the province.

- They and 17 others faced 259 charges, among them theft and money laundering involving an estimated R130 million.
- Judge A Kruger acquitted the Mokoenas and Matlole on all the charges they faced.
- The other accused, among them senior provincial government officials, personal assistants and two businessmen were found guilty of money laundering and fraud.
- Those convicted are to due to be sentenced from Monday.
- A very emotional Mokoena said it had been a tough seven years for him and his family.
- Mokoena said it became clear during the trial that the charges against him were politically motivated.

NORTH WEST / FREE STATE

Mangaung mayor is a man of his word

MATEFU MOKOENA

HE could have been the prototype of the "New Person" the African National Congress was looking for during its national general council in Port Elizabeth a few months before the local government elections which brought a new dispensation with amalgamation of municipalities in 2000.

With his election as the mayor of Mangaung, the largest municipality in Free State, many believe that in Itumeleng Papi Mokoena (46) the ANC found someone who embodies the values and culture of the party and the Batho Pele concept .

It is not only his loyalty to the party but his commitment to his personal development through extensive study and alignment with pro-poor policies that contribute to his success as the mayor and consolidates his party membership.

Mokoena is greatly concerned with the plight of the poor and has a strong passion to serve them.

Like President Thabo Mbeki he believes strongly in the development of the new person or new cadre.

"Since our country has entered into a new dispensation, we need a new kind of cadre, who has the basic understanding of development issues," says Mokoena.

At the time of his appointment in December 2000 Mokoena, who is a qualified pharmacist from the University of the North and a father of three, was about to finish his studies as a medical practitioner.

But when the call came for him to serve his people he never looked back. With no experience and skills in local government he decided to take up the challenge.

Since then his municipality, consisting of the city of Bloemfontein, Botshabelo and Thaba Nchu, has never been rocked with instability.

Three weeks ago Mokoena presented his 2003 budget of R1,5 billion, which was accepted by all the political parties in the council, stakeholders and the residents of Mangaung.

In his budget speech he said the municipality will continue to improve social development through a series of interventions and particularly seek to empower women, youth, the disabled and the rural community.

He announced the write-off of residents' debt of R170 million, which was a result of outstanding rates and taxes.

Mokoena says his appointment as mayor was more of a challenge to develop himself and have a better understanding of economic and global issues. He involved himself in extensive studying and is now left with five courses to complete his MBA.

At the time of his appointment Mokoena left his job as a pharmacist at Pelonomi hospital and was involved in the Ten Alliance company, which had shares in the Mangaung maximum prison. It is his involvement in community work that has influenced his nomination. He was also a member of the Mangaung education crisis committee.

Mokoena is of the opinion that the political leadership at national, provincial and local level should go for executive development programmes to be able to grapple with economic and global issues. He says it is only when the political leadership starts to understand how democracy works that they will improve the participation of their followers.

"The poor should have a sense that we are a caring municipality. We should continue to give them hope that this democracy will work," he says.

He adds he has successfully developed the Integrated Development Plan (IDP), which is the main strategic instrument guiding municipal planning, management, investment, development and decision-making.

He is now faced with key delivery objectives, which are derived from the understanding of the development needs of the people.

Those objectives are economic growth and job creation, building community resilience and self-reliance, service excellence and sustainability, as well as civic leadership and common purpose.

Regarding the ruling party's political interference, which continues to happen in the Free State, Mokoena agrees it sometimes leaves him lonely and powerless.

"There are times when you feel you are lonely. But with an understanding of where you are going, you will win.

"All of us get the test of our time to determine whether we are on the right track," the upbeat Mokoena says.

PIC - COLOUR

CAPTION - ON THE RIGHT TRACK . . . Mangaung mayor Itumeleng Papi Mokoena is determined to put the Free State city on top

Free State municipal mafia foiled

[07 Apr 2006 07:59 - Vicki Robinson](#)

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A ruling to dismiss the Mangaung municipality's top two officials last Friday has highlighted how a group of senior councillors and officials ran an "organised corruption syndicate" that allegedly looted tens of millions of rands from the local authority. The Mangaung Local Municipality ranks among the country's top 10 biggest councils, with a budget of R1,5-billion.

A ruling to dismiss the Mangaung municipality's top two officials last Friday has highlighted how a group of senior councillors and officials ran an "organised corruption syndicate" that allegedly looted tens of millions of rands from the local authority.

The Mangaung Local Municipality, which includes Bloemfontein, Thaba Nchu and Botshabelo, ranks among the country's top 10 biggest councils, with a budget of R1,5-billion.

The arrests by the Scorpions last July of then-Mangaung mayor Papi Mokoena, his wife Granny, his political adviser Jacob Thithi, city manager Mojalefa Matlole, chief operating officer Mzwandile Silwana and then-speaker Zongezile Zumane shook the Free State political establishment.

In October last year the African National Congress fired Mokoena from all his leadership positions. Municipal spokesperson Lele Mamatu said Thithi was still employed by the municipality as new Mayor Gertrude Mothupi's adviser, although he was on suspension. Zumane has left the municipality.

They are all due to appear in court again on April 13, but the charges have not been detailed in public.

This week the *Mail & Guardian* can reveal the extent of the rot, which has come to the surface as a result of the disciplinary proceedings by the municipality against Matlole and Silwana. Both were found guilty last week on a lengthy list of charges by presiding officer Percy Sonn, an advocate and former head of the Scorpions. He recommended dismissal. Durban advocate Roshan Dehal prosecuted.

A council briefing paper obtained by the *M&G* quotes the Scorpions as claiming the corruption topped R150-million — 10% of the municipal budget.

A Scorpions affidavit last June to motivate warrants to search the Mangaung municipal offices described Matlole, Silwana and their political masters as "mastermind[s] behind [an] organised corruption syndicate operating in the Mangaung municipality".

According to the affidavit: "Their modus operandi is to allocate tenders to the companies either owned by their spouses, parents, children, relatives, friends or themselves. In many

cases the employees create fictitious invoices for services provided to the municipality and issue cheques to third parties, who will in turn pay them back the money after they have cashed the cheques.”

This week several claims were made from within the municipality that the newly elected Mangaung mayor, Gertrude Mothupi, who is the sister of provincial ANC secretary Lobe, had attempted to stifle the council investigation into corruption.

Sources said it was part of an attempt to conceal Lobe’s role in the network of corruption. It was also suggested by council insiders that new mayor Mothupi is in the same “ANC camp” as former mayor Mokoena, his former adviser, Thithi, Matlole and Silwana, and that there was a pact among them to protect each other.

Additional claims were made by insiders that the council tried to bring forward a scheduled debate last Friday ahead of Sonn’s judgement of Matlole and Silwana in an attempt to pass a motion to stop the disciplinary process against them and therefore nullify the prosecution process.

Mothupi did not provide a direct answer to a written question regarding claims that she was protecting her sister, but said: “The council meeting was not a scheduled meeting but a special meeting to consider, amongst others, council annual reports matters. Indeed, the matter of the suspended senior officials was also itemised. As a new council and leadership we are interested in bringing stability to the municipality ... Surely if there is a need for council to review certain decisions, processes, costs, et cetera, we are entitled to that? However, no motion was passed, but council mandated me as executive mayor to compile a report about the process relating to the two officials.”

According to Lobe: “Gertrude [Mothupi] is my sister, but I don’t micromanage the affairs of any municipality, I manage the day-to-day affairs of the ANC. It is wrong for anyone to make the assumption that I’m involved in any municipality’s affairs or that my sister [has attempted to protect me].”

The charge sheets against Silwana and Motlale are also revealing:

- Over the past year Silwana has repeatedly benefited a supplier to the council, Into Marketing, by awarding it contracts in excess of R2-million. Silwana’s wife, Brigitte, is a director of the company.
- In 2004, Matlole approved payment of a socio-economic project grant to the tune of R969 000 to a private company, Moletsetse Communications, to finance a business venture with Cell C, without the requisite council approval.

Hendra Conradie, an attorney for developers Freddie and Irene Kenney, said: “It is impossible to comment because we have not seen the forensic reports upon which these allegations are based.

“The instruction to me was that there was absolutely nothing wrong with the deal. It went out on tender and was above board.”

Poverty is severe in Mangaung. According to Department of Provincial and Local Government documentation 58% of Mangaung’s households live below the poverty line, measured at between R700 and R1 500 per month per household.

The thwarted R79m scam

One of the worst cases of this duplicity—and a key set of charges against Mojalefa Matlole and Mzwandile Silwana—involved locking the municipality into an unauthorised transaction that would have cost R79-million over 12 years for a property that was independently valued at between R14-million and R25-million.

There was no tender.

The land for the same property was sold by the municipality, also without a tender, to the developer for a pittance after the deal had been struck to buy it back in developed form.

According to a forensic study commissioned by the municipality and obtained by the *M&G*, on February 9 last year Matlole and Silwana sold the property to the developer—called the Sue Celken Family Trust—for R184 835. This was about 80% below market value. The trustees of the trust are Freddie and Irene Kenney, apparently friends of Matlole, Silwana and other councillors.

On February 7 2005, two days before the sale, the Sue Celken Trust’s attorneys had prepared a purchase/lease agreement between the trust and the municipality, binding the municipality to repurchase the property for R79-million.

According to the agreement, the trust would build a new regional office for the municipality. The municipality would then occupy the property, paying the purchase price over 12 years, in addition to paying rental until the property was fully paid off.

Kenney initially approached the municipality in January 2004 with this development proposal through the head of the planning department, Wilfred Machogo. Machogo Development Associates (MDA), a corporation that Machogo was associated with before his employment with the council, prepared the Kenney’s development application to the municipality.

This week Charlotte Lobe, the ANC secretary in the Free State, confirmed to the *M&G* that she holds 13% of the MDA shares but denied knowledge of the company’s mention in any forensic documentation.

“I have been a shareholder for four years already, but I am not aware of any forensic report that names the company,” she said.

The purchase/lease agreement was signed on May 31 2005 by Matlole, but only approved by the Executive Council on June 14 2005. Concerns expressed by the finance department about the transaction were squashed by Silwana, who “ordered” the department to issue a favourable comment, according to the forensic study.

“Silwana and Matlole had concluded the transaction and ownership was transferred to the Trust prior to either of them making the required and prescribed disclosures regarding certain aspects of the transactions ... Nowhere during the course of the investigation, could evidence be found of provincial approval obtained by the municipality for the purchase, which is necessary, prior to the conclusion of the transaction,” said the forensic documentation relating to the investigation.

CHARGES WERE TRUMPED UP – MOKOENA

October 26, 2012 | Filed under Popular News, Previous news | Posted by editor



Free at last.....Former Mayor of Mangaung Local Municipality now Metropolitan, Papi Mokoena has been acquitted of fraud and corruption charges

The former mayor points to political jealousy and what he terms “trumped up charges” in a witch-hunt to destroy his integrity

The former executive Mayor of Mangaung Local Municipality, Papi Mokoena, who was recently acquitted of corruption and fraud in a marathon Bloemfontein High Court trial, said the charges were a political ploy to discredit him.

Mokoena and 15 others, including his wife, were charged with 163 counts of fraud, theft, money laundering and racketeering, in a criminal trial that lasted seven years.

Although Mokoena and his wife, Granny were acquitted, the court convicted and sentenced their co-accused. The trial established corrupt dealings involving employees of the municipality and bogus enterprises set up to fleece the municipality of millions of Rands.

Mokoena was arrested and indicted in 2005 before being suspended as mayor of the Mangaung Local Municipality.

In an exclusive interview with The Weekly on Wednesday, Mokoena said he never doubted his innocence and maintained that his commitment had always been to serve the people and not to use his position to enrich himself.

He said the municipality was performing efficiently under his stewardship and this angered his political opponents who launched a witch-hunt against him.

“There was a group of people who wanted to take over the municipality. When their efforts failed, they resorted to using the Scorpions to destabilise the municipality. We are not perfect and if you search through every little detail of our actions, you are bound to find something faulty.

“The Scorpions sifted through our daily activities such as email conversations for anything they wanted to stick. They eventually found what they thought was irregular after forensic investigations failed to find anything suspicious in my dealings; a further indication that it was not a normal procedure but a ploy. They basically charged me with racketeering, which implied that I was a kingpin of some cartel that was out to milk the municipality. This destroyed my integrity,” said Mokoena.

He said the then MEC for local government and housing then, Casca Mokitlane, succumbed to pressure and suspended him, despite being cleared of any wrongdoing after an internal investigation. Mokoena revealed to The Weekly that he lost approximately R2-million (R50 000 a week) in legal fees during the duration of the trial, which he said it crippled him financially.

He is still a member of the ANC, although he does not hold any senior position in the party. He is still loyal to the party and has vowed to continue serving it.

“My activism has never been based on political positions. I always wanted to work for the people and contribute to improving people’s lives. I have remained loyal to my people, I do not need employment.”

According to Mokoena, he was a business man before he became a mayor.

“I have been sustained by my pharmacy. I have businesses outside the province and hold shares in some companies. I am not looking for a job because I believe I have the capacity to create jobs.

“Those who know me will tell you that I have always wanted to serve the people. This case did not do anything to change that. I will continue serving people in the best possible way I can.”

Mokoena is a father of three children aged 19, 16, and 13, who had to go through counselling to cope with the pressures that came with the corruption trial.

“They were getting mixed messages from the media, and a great deal of teasing and heckling from their peers at school. It was hard for us as parents to see our children going through that. But we had prayer groups on Thursdays which eased the psychological strain.”

His wife, Granny, was also an accused in the case because of her business links with the municipality. She, too, was found not guilty on 16 counts related to fraud and corruption.

Mokoena conceded that the trial did shake his sense of justice and trusts that the justice system will not be abused.

“During the course of the trial, you must remain calm although confusion does get the better of you. Anger and sadness overwhelm you. It was a painful experience.”

He condemned corruption because he believes it takes away the government’s ability to deliver. He also said there were white people who were not happy that the municipality was delivering under a black political leadership.

“In our case only, black people were charged. We were a group of people who were black, taking the municipality to greater heights. There were white people who were not happy. There was not even one white person charged in this case. This sends a message to the people that corruption is committed by black people only. This cannot be right.”

Mokoena has appealed to South Africans to protect the country's hard-earned democracy.

"The enemy still exists and it is poverty. Our people are being used to undermine us because of greed."

The 12 co-accused were found guilty in all charges but acquitted in racketeering charges and vowed to take the matter to the Supreme Court of Appeal (SCA).

The collective's bail was extended and they have until November 7, 2012 to lodge their appeal.

[Papi Mokoena finally takes to the stand](#)

Posted on 11 October 2011.

Bloemfontein – Former Mangaung Mayor Papi Mokoena took the stand in the Bloemfontein High Court for the first time as the fraud and racketeering trial against him and 18 co-accused resumed today. The case against them dates back to 2005 when they were arrested at their respective work places. They are accused of defrauding the Mangaung Local Municipality of more than R100-million and collectively face 264 charges of racketeering, money-laundering, corruption and fraud. Mokoena remained calm and composed on the stand as defence lawyer Johann Nel queried him on the various allegations and charges against him. Many of these deal with catering contracts and tenders allegedly awarded to friends and family of Mokoena. He denied at any stage having had anything to do with contracts awarded to his wife's catering company after he became Mayor. Mokoena said there was "no truth" to allegations he had recommended Koena Catering. Mokoena's cross-examination continues tomorrow. Read the rest in tomorrow's Citizen.

Source: O-fm

Sabrina Dean

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- *Embattled Executive Mayor*
Mangaung
- *Mayor*

[24 Total References](#)

Web References

[The National Prosecuting ...](#)

[www.sabcnews.com](#), 4 Oct 2007 [[cached](#)]

The National Prosecuting Authority (NPA) has arrested nine people as part of ongoing investigations into the multi-million rand corruption case involving former mayor of Mangaung, Papi Mokoena.

Mokoena was arrested by the Scorpions in 2005 on charges of corruption and fraud involving about R150 million. The nine were arrested in Gauteng and Bloemfontein.

NPA spokesperson, Tlali Tlali, says they are expected to appear in court in Bloemfontein today on charges of fraud, corruption and money-laundering. Mokoena will stand trial in October this year in the Bloemfontein High Court.

Mokoena and Granny, his wife, and 10 others are charged together with four companies for racketeering, fraud, theft, money laundering and corruption.

[SABCnews.com - south_africa/general](http://www.sabcnews.com/south_africa/general)

www.sabcnews.com [\[cached\]](#)

Papi Mokoena, Mangaung's mayor and Zongezile Zumane, the speaker, were arrested by the Scorpions on 25 July on charges of corruption, theft and fraud after an investigation into the affairs of the Mangaung Local Municipality.

[SABCnews.com - south_africa/crime1justice](http://www.sabcnews.com/south_africa/crime1justice)

www.sabcnews.com [\[cached\]](#)

Papi Mokoena, the executive mayor of Mangaung
Papi Mokoena, the executive mayor of Mangaung, has been asked to step down

October 18, 2005, 17:15

Papi Mokoena, the executive mayor of Mangaung, which includes Bloemfontein, has been ordered to step down. The ANC's provincial working committee issued Mokoena the instruction. Mokoena was arrested by the Scorpions earlier this year on fraud, corruption and theft charges involving tenders worth R150 million.

Pat Matosa, the Free State deputy ANC chairperson, says an internal council committee is still investigating the conduct of Mokoena and other municipal officials.

...

Matosa says instructing Mokoena to step down will have no relationship and bearing on the formal court processes taking place at the Bloemfontein high court, where Mokoena, his wife, and other officials are to stand trial.

...

The court case of Mokoena and five other accused will be heard in the High Court on April 13 next year.

[SABCnews.com - politics/the_provinces](http://www.sabcnews.com/politics/the_provinces)

www.sabcnews.com [\[cached\]](#)

Mokoena to be axed as Mangaung councillor

Papi Mokoena
Papi Mokoena, the controversial executive mayor of Mangaung has been ousted as mayor

November 04, 2005, 17:30

Papi Mokoena, the controversial executive mayor of Mangaung, has not only been ousted as mayor of the capital city of the Free State, he will also be kicked out as councillor.

This drastic action ends months of speculation about his future as mayor and the see-saw battle over who really is in charge of the Mangaung city council. The council meeting was a sequel to the arrest of Mokoena by the Scorpions and five others on theft and fraud charges relating to tenders involving R150 million.

Mokoena arrived at the council meeting without wearing his mayoral robes and chain - a possible precursor of the events that unfolded today.

...

Mokoena proposed that Eva Moilwa, the councillor who has been acting as mayor, table the mayoral reports.

...

The report recommends that Joel Mafereka, the MEC for local government, be requested to remove Mokoena as councillor in terms of the Municipal Systems Act.

SABCnews.com - south_africa/crime1justice

www.sabcnews.com [\[cached\]](#)

Papi Mokoena, the embattled executive mayor of Mangaung, which includes Bloemfontein, is back in office as mayor.

Mokoena went on voluntary leave after being arrested by the Scorpions for alleged fraud, theft and corruption. He returned to office last month without informing the African National Congress (ANC). Mokoena then went on leave again, but that expired yesterday, so today he was back at work.

Pat Matosa, the deputy chairperson of the ANC in the Free State, says they are waiting on a report to decide whether Mokoena transgressed the ANC's code of conduct.

Fraud accused assets to be seized

2011-06-30 22:36

Johannesburg - The Asset Forfeiture Unit has been granted a restraint order of more than R1.9m against former Mangaung mayor Papi Mokoena and 18 others allegedly involved in a fraud and racketeering case, the National Prosecuting Authority said on Thursday.

"The money is alleged to be a benefit of unlawful activities, such as corruption and fraud," NPA Bloemfontein spokesperson Medupe Simasiku said in a statement.

The order meant that property and business interests had to be disclosed and surrendered to the state.

These would then be placed under the control of a curator.

Mokoena, his wife Granny, former municipal manager Mojalefa Matlole, former municipal speaker Zongezile Zumane, and former business manager Mzwandile Silwana face 259 charges, including theft and money-laundering, involving an estimated R130m.

Other accused include Jakes Thithi, the political adviser to the former mayor, Silwana's wife Brigitte, Evodia Kok (Zumane's personal assistant) and Laetitia Hoffman (Mokoena's personal assistant), Buyelwa Khethelo, a businesswoman from Rocklands, Soweto, and two Heidedal businessmen, Keabecoe and Kegomodicoe Lekone.

On Wednesday, the Free State High Court in Bloemfontein dismissed two applications for a discharge in the case.

Judge A Kruger said it was possible that if some accused had their cases dismissed, they would then be blamed for the crimes by those remaining.

This would not be in the interests of justice, he said.

The discharge applications were filed on behalf of the Lekones and Givenchy Hoffman, who was Matlole's personal assistant.

Another two applications filed last Wednesday for Thithi, and Laetitia Hoffman were also dismissed.

The case follows an investigation by the now-disbanded Scorpions into the Mangaung local municipality, which started in 2005.

The trial was postponed to October 10.

- SAPA

And again it's Winkie vs Ace

[04 May 2007 00:00 - Rapule Tabane](#)

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“Bloemfontein for Bloemfonteinians!” This, apparently, is the rallying call of a group of ANC members determined to end the reign of Free State ANC chairperson Ace Magashule and his executive in the province. In the past few weeks the provincial ANC has been taken to court by members and non-members attempting to stop the party from holding its five regional conferences.

‘Bloemfontein for Bloemfonteinians!’ This, apparently, is the rallying call of a group of ANC members determined to end the reign of Free State ANC chairperson Ace Magashule and his executive in the province.

In the past few weeks the provincial ANC has been taken to court by members and non-members attempting to stop the party from holding its five regional conferences, on the basis that there were irregularities in the processes at branch level.

The battle for the soul of the ANC took a nastier turn this week when it was revealed that the rebellious litigants were funded by senior ANC members who have fallen from power.

Former premier Winkie Direko admitted to funding a group of unemployed people from Bothaville who took the ANC to court because their names were not on the ANC candidate lists during the local government elections last year.

But she told the SABC that she funded the group out of compassion, as their houses were about to be attached because they could not afford to pay their attorney after they had lost the case against the ANC.

The ANC has also named former Mangaung mayor Papi Mokoena as key to an anti-ANC mobilisation campaign in the province. Mokoena was removed in 2005 after he was charged with corruption amounting to millions of rands during his tenure as executive mayor.

Mokoena left kicking and screaming after he initially disobeyed an ANC instruction to stop reporting to work as mayor. He was charged, along with his wife and other senior council officials, with fraud and corruption, and the case is continuing.

Provincial secretary Charlotte Lobe told the *Mail & Guardian* that the provincial executive committee noted the emergence of a grouping called Bloemfontein Forum, which is led by Papi Mokoena and Winkie Direko and whose rallying cry is ‘Bloemfontein for Bloemfonteinians’.

‘It is the view of the PEC that this behaviour is foreign to the ANC, because South Africa belongs to all who live in it, black and white. All matters that relate to this issue are currently being processed by the Provincial Disciplinary Committee,’ Lobe said.

Magashule is the longest-serving provincial chairperson in the ANC and has been returned to office several times — even after Luthuli House disbanded his executive because of infighting. He has been overlooked for the post of premier since 1994, but this has not diluted his hold over his supporters in the province.

Two weeks ago, president Thabo Mbeki questioned how unemployed ANC members could afford to take the party to court.

The SABC then reported that it was in possession of a receipt for R20000 made out to Direko by an attorney representing the ANC members.

Direko this week promised to speak to the *Mail & Guardian*, but had switched off her phone at the agreed interview time. Direko has lost to Magashule in the ANC leadership battle, but was appointed premier by the ANC and served from 1999 to 2004 when she was returned to the National Assembly, where she is a member of Parliament.

Deputy chairperson Pat Matosa said the litigants had declined advice from the ANC to take their grievances to the ANC secretary general Kgalema Motlanthe and insisted on going to court.

‘We asked ourselves what is it that these people are looking for? Are they fomenting a classic counter-revolution? It is very odd. Last week another group lost their case. But these people, some of whom live on grants from the state, had the money to immediately lodge an appeal the same day.

‘It seems to us they want to take over the party and impose their agenda,’ said Matosa, himself a long-time survivor and ally of Magashule.

Lobe said the party had already held three regional conferences and that the next two will be in the next two weeks. This weekend the highly contested Motheo region, which includes Bloemfontein, will hold its regional conference. Motheo’s chairperson is Thabo Manyoni, who is considered a key Magashule lieutenant.

Lobe added that the party was about to conclude an investigation into the recent court cases, after which it would present a report to Motlanthe.



Rapule is the *Mail & Guardian*'s political editor.

[Read more from Rapule Tabane](#)

Pappie lei vandag self vergadering oor hul lot

2005-07-29 01:46

[Druk hierdie artikel](#)

CHARLES SMITH

DIE uitvoerende burgemeester van Mangaung, mnr. Pappie Mokoena, en die speaker van die raad wat albei dié week in die hof verskyn het in verband met korrupsie by die munisipaliteit van minstens R150 miljoen, sal vandag op hul pos wees op die spesiale raadsvergadering waar die raad oor die hofsaak ingelig gaan word.

Die verwagting is dat daar nie vandag 'n besluit geneem sal word oor Mokoena en die ander mense wat in die Bloemgate-korrupsiesage betrek word nie. 'n Aankondiging hieroor kan glo wel op 'n tweede spesiale raadsvergadering aanstaande Woensdag verwag word - die dag voordat hulle weer in die landdroshof in die stad moet verskyn.

Die ANC in die Vrystaat, die Vrystaatse regering en die vyf topbestuurslede van die Mangaung-raad kon gister steeds nie ooreenkom oor Mokoena en sy kollegas se toekoms nie. Daarom dra Mokoena vandag steeds die goue ketting op die vergadering en sal mnr. Zongezile Zumane, speaker, aanvanklik as voorsitter optree.

Mnre. Mojalefa Matlole, munisipale bestuurder, Mzwandile Silwana, bedryfshoof, en Motlalepula Thithi, Mokoena die politieke raadgewer, wat ook in die hof verskyn het, sal ook op hul pos wees.

Adv. Seef Hefer, voorsitter van die DA-koukus in die stadsraad, sê die opposisiepartye het gister 'n vergadering met Zumane oor die vergadering vandag gehad. Zumane het net die vergadering geopen, waarna die ANC se hoofswep oorgeneem het. Hy verwag dat so iets ook vandag kan gebeur. Indien Mokoena of Zumane die vergadering gaan lei, sal hulle 'n "ernstige probleem" daarmee hê.

Die aanduiding was ook dat vrae op die vergadering deur raadslede gevra sal kan word.

Mnr. Lele Mamatu, woordvoerder van die burgemeester, het gesê twee verslae sal aan die raad voorgehou word, waarvan een deur Zumane voorberei is. Dit sal oor die hofsaak handel.

Mokoena het gister wel die ANC-byeenkoms in die burgersentrum bygewoon.

Intussen het die ANC die "proses verwelkom" waar die Skerpioene korrupsie in die Mangaung-munisipaliteit wil vasvat.

"As enigiemand skuldig is, moet hulle die reg sy gang laat gaan. Ons verwelkom die proses waardeur verseker word dat 'n skoon regering aan die bewind is," het mnr. Smuts Nkonyama, die party se nasionale woordvoerder, by navraag aan *Volksblad* gesê.

Hy het gesê die ANC het volle vertroue in die reg en dat "die waarheid sal uitkom".

Op 'n vraag van *Volksblad* of dienslewering nie weer 'n ernstige knou gekry het nie, het hy gesê: "Daar is nie sprake daarvan nie. Daar is orals dienslewering, niemand kan sê daar is nie dienslewering nie. Daar is wel gebiede waar dit meer nodig is as ander plekke.

Dienslewering is 'n proses. Apartheid het 300 jaar geduur. Maar enigiemand met lang vingers sal met die gereg bots."

- Die Burger Wes

Pappie se regte 'is aangetas'

2006-04-17 00:56

- Artikelopsies
 - Deel
- Kry Volksblad op

Jeanne-Marié Versluis

DIE voormalige burgemeester van die Mangaung-munisipaliteit, mnr. Pappie Mokoena, is so te sê nou werkloos, want iemand het gedink dit is beter om hom éérs in hegtenis te neem en dán 'n ondersoek teen hom te doen.

So het adv. Johann Nel vir Mokoena en sewe ander mense Donderdag in die Bloemfonteinse streekhof aangevoer.

Mokoena en nog nege verdagtes word daarvan verdink dat hulle die Mangaung-munisipaliteit met R170 miljoen bedrieg het. Van die verdagtes is in Julie verlede jaar in hegtenis geneem en van hulle einde verlede jaar. Almal is op borgtog uit.

Nel het betoog benewens Mokoena het nog twee van sy kliënte, mnre. Mojalefa (J.J) Matlole en Mzwandile Silwana, weens hul inhegtenisneming tugverhore by die munisipaliteit gekry en is deur die munisipaliteit afgedank (as onderskeidelik munisipale bestuurder en bedryfshoof).

“Hulle is óók werkloos.”

Van die verdagtes ly onder 'n “verwoestende hoeveelheid vooroordeel”, het Nel betoog.

“Ons versoek dat die saak van die rol geskrap word.

“Laat die staat aangaan met sy ondersoek en wanneer dit ryp is vir verhoor, die beskuldigdes dan voor die hof bring.”

Adv. Willem Edeling, namens mnr. Motlalepula Jacob Thithi (geskorste politieke raadgewer by die munisipaliteit), het betoog wanneer 'n uitgerekte ondersoek voorsien word, word mense nie éérs in hegtenis geneem nie.

“Die beskuldigdes se regte is ernstig aangetas,” het Edeling betoog.

Mnr. Sosabo Jacob Sithole van die nasionale vervolgingsgesag (NVG) het in die hof getuig: “Ons gáán (die tien verdagtes) aankla.”

Hy het getuig Thithi se skorsing het gespruit uit die munisipaliteit se interne oudit en nie uit die komende verhoor in die hof nie.

Streeklanddros A.J. Pienaar het in sy uitspraak in die staat se aansoek om uitstel van die saak gesê dit is in alle partye se belang dat die staat se ondersoek voltooi word voordat die klagstaat opgestel en 'n verhoordatum bepaal word.

Hy het gesê die skuld vir die vooroordeel teenoor van die verdagtes, wat gespruit het uit hul skorsing, kan nie op die NVG gepak word nie.

- Volksblad

ONS STAD: Mokoena het plan met skuld

2004-01-29 10:08

Druk hierdie artikel

Marietjie Gericke

DIE burgemeester van Mangaung, mnr. Pappie Mokoena, stel vandag sy 100%-veldtog bekend waarmee hy 'n einde wil bring aan agterstallige munisipale skuld wat teen einde Desember sowat R445,7 miljoen beloop het nadat sowat R140 miljoen se agterstallige skuld reeds verlede jaar afgeskryf is.

Dié verskerpte "vasvat-aksie" raak alle inwoners en sakelui van Bloemfontein, Botshabelo en Thaba Nchu wat die raad 'n klomp geld skuld.

Mokoena sê daar is veral baie sakemanne en -vroue van Mangaung wat laks is om te betaal en die skroewe gaan beslis stywer aangedraai word.

Hy soek 'n lys van sakeondernemings wat die raad geld skuld vir munisipale dienste gelewer.

Stadsraadslede werk mooi saam en die meeste betaal, maar die ANC het ook in sy koukus al die raadslede en munisipale amptenare in diens van Mangaung vorms laat onderteken waarvolgens skuld direk met debietorders uit hul bankrekenings afgetrek kan word indien hulle versuim om te betaal.

Amptenary van die provinsiale regering het soortgelyke briewe gekry en dit is deel van 'n projek van die nasionale minister van provinsiale en plaaslike regering om munisipale skuld in SuidAfrika hok te slaan.

Vakbonde probeer om hierteen te baklei.

Van die senior bestuurslui van die Mangaung-munisipaliteit gaan ook vanjaar gemeet word wanneer hul prestasie-beoordelings gedoen word aan hoe suksesvol hulle was met die invordering van die skuld en hulle loop die gevaar om prestasiebonusse te verbeur indien hulle nie slaag nie.

Die doelwit wat onder meer aan die stadsbestuurder, mnr. Mojalfa Matlole, en die uitvoerende direkteur: finansies, mnr. Hans Brits, en sy bestuur by tesourie gestel word, is dat hulle teen Junie vanjaar minstens 90% van die agterstallige skuld ingevorder moet hê.

Mokoena sê die Mangaung-munisipaliteit is nou 'n prestasie-gedrewe munisipaliteit wat in baie opsigte 'n voorbeeld vir die res van die land se munisipaliteite kan wees.

'n Spesiale kliëntediens-afdeling vir invorderings met 'n bestuurder en agt vertroulike eenhede met personeel is op die been gebring om spesifiek met die skuldinvorderingsprojek van hulp te wees.

Kliënte met skuld sal op vertroulike wyse te woord gestaan word en daar gaan gekyk word hoe die skuld ingevorder kan word. Die eenheid wat op die been gebring is, is uniek in plaaslike bestuur in SuidAfrika. Vir inwoners se gerief sal hulle ook nou by betaalpunte by Pick 'n Pay, Checkers, die Hyperama en die poskantoor, water- en elektrisiteitsrekenings kan vereffen. Inwoners gaan ook voortaan beloon word vir vroeë betalings van water- en elektrisiteitsrekenings en pryse sal byvoorbeeld maandeliks gewen kan word met gelukstrekkings uit die name van diegene wat betyds betaal het. Dit is om mense aan te moedig om te betaal en om vroeg te betaal. Die 100%-veldtog sal met brosjures, pamflette, advertensies en plakkate bekend gestel word. Van die ander belangrike sake op die agenda van die burgemeester vir 2004, is:

- ☐ Om prestasiegedrewe kontrakte vir senior werknemers van die Mangaung-munisipaliteit in plek te kry waarvolgens hulle gemeet word.
- ☐ Die opstel van jeugprogramme en aktiwiteite vir die jong mense.
- ☐ Die implementering van 'n ekonomiese strategie en program om seker te maak dat Mangaung en sy streek vinniger groei en dat dit beleggersvriendelik is. Hierby kom die stigting van 'n afdeling wat voornemende beleggers te woord kan staan en waarby hulle 'n eenstopdiens kan kry.
- ☐ Die opstel van feestelike programme waarmee die tien jaar van vryheid en demokrasie in SuidAfrika gevier kan word.

- Volksblad

Pappie, speaker se skorsing gevra

2005-08-16 22:58

Druk hierdie artikel

JEANNE-MARIÉ VERSLUIS

OPPOSISIEPARTYE in die stadsraad van die Mangaung-munisipaliteit het gister 'n mosie by die kantoor van die raad se waarnemende speaker ingedien waarin gevra word vir 'n vergadering om die uitvoerende burgemeester en die speaker te skors.

Die uitvoerende burgemeester, mnr. Pappie Mokoena, en die speaker, mnr. Zongezile Zumane, is deur die ANC met vergoeding op vakansie gestuur. Hulle het vrywillige verlof van 29 Julie geneem.

Mokoena, sy vrou, Granny, Zumane, mnr. Motlalepule (J.J.) Matlole, die munisipale bestuurder, mnr. Mzwandile Silwana, die bedryfshoof, en mnr. Motlalepula Jacob Thithi, die burgemeester se politieke raadgewer, is vroeër deur die Skerpioene in hegtenis geneem in verband met tenderbedrog. Hulle word daarvan verdink dat hulle die munisipaliteit met R150 miljoen bedrieg het.

Me. Masese Eva Moilwa (ANC) is later op 'n spesiale stadsraadsvergadering as waarnemende uitvoerende burgemeester verkies en mnr. Mxolisi Syonzana (ANC) as waarnemende speaker.

Opposisiepartye in die raad het gister 'n mosie ingedien waarin vir die vergadering gevra word.

Luidens die mosie ontvang mnre. Mokoena en Zumane hul vergoeding met die uitsondering van sekere voordele. Dié twee het "daarin misluk om uit hul onderskeie ampte te bedank".

In die mosie vra die DA en die VF+ vir die "verwydering" van mnre. Mokoena en Zumane met onmiddellike effek weens onder meer die volgende redes:

- Dié twee beklee die hoogste openbare ampte in die munisipaliteit.
- Albei word daarvan verdink dat hulle ernstige oortredings begaan het.
- Die inwoners van die Mangaung-gebied het hul respek en vertroue in die twee belangrikste stadsraadslede verloor.

- Die beeld van die raad en die munisipaliteit word geskaad as dié twee toegelaat word om in hul ampte te bly hangende hul verhoor.

- Dit is onaanvaarbaar dat die twee raadslede op 'n "betaalde vakansie" moet wees terwyl hulle van dié misdade verdink word.

Die ander opposisiepartye het die mosie gesekondeer.

- Die Burger Wes

BLOEMNUUS: ANC kyk nou ook na Mokoena

2002-05-03 10:06

[Druk hierdie artikel](#)

Hettiën Coertzen

BLOEMFONTEIN se uitvoerende burgemeester se kop kan na bewering rol op die komende ANC-kongres waar hy hoog op die kongres se besprekingslys is.

Dié kongres vind eersdaags in Bloemfontein plaas.

Die moontlikheid word ook nie uitgesluit nie dat die ouditeur-generaal ook mag besluit dat mnr. Pappie Mokoena, burgemeester, in die toekoms dalk ook krimineel vervolgt moet word.

Dit volg nadat Mangaung se uitvoerende burgemeester op die laaste raadsvergadering in die openbaar 'n formele waarskuwing gegee is omdat hy onder meer nie verklaar het watter voordele hy of sy vrou gekry het vir werk wat twee Vrystaatse maatskappye vir die munisipaliteit gedoen het nie. Volgens die amptelike gedragskode van die munisipaliteit moet enige amptenaar sy persoonlike belange verklaar. Mokoena het dit nie gedoen nie.

Ná sy skuldigbevinding aan oortredings van die gedragskode het hy op die stadsraadsvergadering plegtig om verskoning gevra vir optrede wat tot twyfel in die integriteit van die raad kon lei. Die Demokratiese Alliansie (DA) het gesê dit is 'n tragiese dag in die stadsraad se geskiedenis. Mnr. Abie Koch (DA-raadslid) het ook vir 'n ondersoek gevra.

Die opposisieparty vra ook hoekom die speaker, mnr. Zongezile Zumane, in sy verslag geen bedrae wat ter sprake is en wel aan hom bekend was, op dié vergadering genoem het nie. Na bewering sou Mokoena belange hê in 'n maatskappy waarby sy vrou, Granny, en sy skoonma, mev. Kamo Smith, 'n regstreekse belang het, en duisende rande betaal is vir spyseniering en konsultasiewerk vir die munisipaliteit. 'n Formele klag is daarop ingedien.

Die speaker het sy aanbevelings oor die aangeleentheid ook aan die raad voorgehou nadat 'n ondersoek deur sy kantoor afgehandel is. In die ondersoek is bevind Mokoena het oortree deur nie die voordele te verklaar nie wat sy vrou ontvang het vir werk wat Koena Foods vir die munisipaliteit gedoen het. Hy het verder oortree deurdat hy nie verklaar het watter voordele hy ontvang het vir werk wat THM, 'n ingenieursfirma, vir die munisipaliteit gedoen het.

Hy het nie die toestemming van die stadsraad gekry nie om deel te wees of 'n beoordeelde te wees van 'n kontrak vir dienslewering aan die munisipaliteit. Zumane het aanbeveel dat Mokoena gewaarsku word en opdrag kry om al sy geldelike en sakebelange te verklaar.

📧 Stuur e-pos aan **Hettiën Coertzen**

- Volksblad

ONS STAD: Mokoena kry dalk adjunk

2003-02-06 08:03

Druk hierdie artikel

Marietjie Gericke

DIE Mangaung-stadsraad moet vandag oorweeg of hy ook 'n heeltydse uitvoerende onderburgemeester vir die Mangaung-raad gaan aanstel ná 'n pleidooi van die huidige heeltydse uitvoerende burgemeester, mnr. Pappie Mokoena, dat sy werkklas te swaar is en dat hy die hulp van so 'n adjunk benodig vir die groter gebied wat Bloemfontein, Botshabelo en Thaba Nchu insluit.

Ook sou die raad die verhoging in elektrisiteitsariewe van waarskynlik begin Maart af vandag moes bekragtig. Die aanbeveling is dat elektrisiteit met 'n gemiddeld van 8,3% moet styg.

In raadstukke wat vandag voor die stadsraad sou dien, lewer Mokoena 'n sterk pleidooi vir die pos van 'n heeltydse uitvoerende onderburgemeester. Die raad bestaan uit 86 lede en die uitvoerende komitee uit tien lede onder leiding van die uitvoerende burgemeester. Daar is ook 'n speaker wat lid van die 86 raadslede is.

In die stukke ondersteun die stadsbestuurder, mnr. J.J. Matlole, die gedagte dat 'n uitvoerende onderburgemeester aangestel moet word, gesien in die lig van die omvang van die werkklas van Mokoena en beskikbare fondse vir so 'n pos. Die raad kos die belastingbetaler egter reeds meer as R8 miljoen per jaar.

Van die raadslede sê hulle is oortuig dat die uitvoerende onderburgemeester ook 'n ANC-raadslid sal wees. Van die raadslede meen in terme van die samewerkingsooreenkoms tussen die ANC en NNP wat gesluit is, dit 'n gulde geleentheid sou gewees het om nouer samewerking te bewerkstellig deur die pos aan 'n raadslid van die NNP te gee, maar dit is te betwyfel. "Ons sal al die gerugte gehoor het as dit die geval sou gewees het. Ons is oortuig dat dit iemand van die ANC sal wees," sê die NNP.

Ons Stad verneem die wet laat inderdaad toe vir die skepping van 'n heeltydse adjunk vir die uitvoerende burgemeester mits die LUR vir plaaslike regering en behuising, mnr. Lesecha Tsenoli, dit goedkeur.

Die vraag is ook nou of die belastingbetaler nog die bykomende uitgawe kan akkommodeer. 'n Uitvoerende burgemeester verdien reeds meer as R300 000 per jaar.

☐ Die Demokratiese Alliansie (DA) in die Mangaung-stadsraad het onlangs sy stem op 'n raadsvergadering by dié van die minister van finansies, mnr. Trevor Manuel, gevoeg oor buitensporige salarisse in munisipaliteite.

Die bekendmaking van die jaarlikse vergoedingspakkette van Mangaung se topamptenare is op dié laaste raadsvergadering van 2002 bespreek. Dié besonderhede is ooreenkomstig wetsbepalings gepubliseer. Die vergoeding ter sake (voordele en toelaes ingesluit) is dié van die stadsbestuurder, mnr. J.J. Matlole (R699 600), en vyf uitvoerende direkteure.

Hulle is mnre. M.G. Silwana, strategie en transformasie (R594 000), J.F. Brits, finansies (R594 000), T.F. Kgosidintsi, korporatiewe dienste (R572 400), G.M. Mohlakoana, infrastruktuurdienste (R572 400), en K.F. Ralikontsane, ontwikkeling en gemeenskapsdienste (R572 400).

Die voorsitter van die DA-koukus in Mangaung, adv. Seef Hefer, het gesê dié salarisse kan nie aan die belastingbetaler geregverdig word nie. Mnr. Frik Jankowitz (DA-raadslid) wou onder meer weet waarom die salarisse so hoog is en hoe dit die vergoeding van werkers op laer posvlakke raak.

Mokoena het toe gesê die salarisse strook met wetsbepalings.

☐ Stuur e-pos aan **Marietjie Gericke**

- Volksblad

Ek weet nie hoekom ek hier is, sê Pappie

2011-10-10 22:20

Druk hierdie artikel

Mike van Rooyen

“EK weet nie hoekom ek hier is nie. Ek het my beste vir die mense van Mangaung gedoen,” het mnr. Pappie Mokoena, voormalige burgemeester van die Mangaung-munisipaliteit, gister in die Vrystaatse hooggeregshof getuig.

Hy het voor regter A. Kruger in die verhoor waar hy, sy vrou, Granny, en ander hooggeplaaste amptenare van die munisipaliteit van rampokkery, bedrog, korrupsie, geldwassery en diefstal aangekla word, getuig dat hy geen voordeel getrek het uit enige van die transaksies met die munisipaliteit nie. Hy het ook geen wanvoorstellings oor spyseniering aan die munisipaliteit gemaak om geldelike voordeel vir hom of sy familie te bekom of tenders kry nie.

Hy het niks te doen gehad met die reëlings van gesellighede of ’n keuse uitgeoefen oor wie dié dienste lewer nie. Hy was op baie gesellighede van die munisipaliteit, maar het nie geweet wie die spyseniers was nie.

Van die ondernemings of mense wat in die klagstaat genoem word, het hy van geweet, maar nie sake mee gedoen nie. Van die ander het hy die eerste keer in die hof van gehoor.

Dit was nie deel van sy pligte om aankope te doen of dienste vir die munisipaliteit te bekom nie. Dit was die plig van die verskillende afdelingshoofde.

In sy tyd as burgemeester was die Mangaung-munisipaliteit as die beste in die Vrystaat aangewys, sover dit sy finansiële bestuur aangaan.

Hy het geen ambisie gehad om burgemeester te word nie, maar was deur die ANC-leierskap gevra om die werk te doen. Nie almal was daarmee tevrede nie en sommer vroeg in sy termyn was daar “magte” teen hom.

Van die raadslede in sy stadsraad wou hom in ’n swak lig stel. Ondersoeke deur die destydse Skerpioene en die openbare beskermers het ook niks opgelewer nie. “Ek het in moeilike omstandighede ’n onderneming bestuur.”

Hy het getuig sy vrou is 'n baie bekwame sakevrou uit eie reg. Hul huis in William Trollipstraat was soos 'n treinstasie soos mense in- en uitbeweeg het. Hulle het sake met haar gedoen en by haar raad gevra.

Van die ander beskuldigdes is mnr. Jakes Thithi, voormalige politieke raadgewer van die munisipaliteit, mnre. Mojalefa Matlole, 'n voormalige stadsbestuurder, Zongezile Zumane, 'n voormalige speaker, en Mzwandile Silwana, voormalige bedryfshoof van die munisipaliteit, die tweeling, mnre. Kegomodicoe en Keabecoe Lekone, me. Lidia Hoffman van Heidedal, me. Laetitia Hoffman, die gewese persoonlike assistent van Mokoena, en me. Buyelwa Khethelo, 'n sakevrou van Rocklands. Altesaam 259 aanklagte is by hul verhoor betrokke. Nie almal word op al die aanklagte aangekla nie.

Adv. Johann Nel, in opdrag van mnr. Nico Dreyer van Honey-prokureurs, adv. Pieter Nel van die Regshulpraad en mnr. Nelson Majola verskyn namens die beskuldigdes. Adv. Johan de Nysschen kla aan. Die verhoor duur voort.

- Volksblad

Vas!

2005-07-27 00:04

Druk hierdie artikel

Verwante skakels

- **Só lyk Pappie Mokoena, Matlole se geldsake**

JEANNE-MARIÉ VERSLUIS

BAIE getuienis is deur die Skerpioene gekry wat kan bewys dat mnr. Pappie Mokoena, burgemeester van die Mangaung-munisipaliteit, sy vrou en vier ander munisipale topbestuurders die munisipaliteit met sowat R150 miljoen bedrieg het.

Dit blyk uit getuienis wat gister deur die staat aangebied is in Mokoena en sy vyf medeverdagtes se borgtogaansoek in Bloemfontein se landdroshof.

Mokoena (48), sy munisipale bestuurder, mnr. Mojalefa Matlole (41), sy speaker, mnr. Zongezile Zumane (38), mnr. Mzwandile Silwana (38), die bedryfshoof, en Mokoena se politieke raadgewer, mnr. Motlalepula Jacob Thithi (41) het in voetboeie in die hof verskyn.

Mokoena se vrou, Granny (41), het sonder voetboeie in die beskuldigdebank gesit.

Hulle is vroeër deur die Skerpioene in hegtenis geneem. Die Skerpioene het intussen gesê 'n sewende verdagte is in Johannesburg aangekeer en moet nog in die hof verskyn.

Op die hof se vraag gister of die ses verdagtes "gelyke vennote" in die beweerde misdaad was en of van hulle "leiers" was, het mnr. Sosaba Sithole, senior spesiale ondersoeker van die Skerpioene, getuig die burgemeester en sy vrou het die leiding geneem.

Die Mokoena-egpaar, Matlole en Thithi het elk borgtog van R30 000 gekry. Silwana en Zumane het elk borgtog van R20 000 gekry. Almal verskyn volgende Donderdag weer in die hof.

Die ses se regsverteenvoerders het in die borgtogaansoek uitgewei oor die verdagtes se vaste eiendomme, die verbande hierop, hul motors en die versekering en paaiemente hierop, hul salarisse, die skole waarin hul kinders is en hul daaglikse uitgawes.

Adv. Johann Nel, vir al die verdagtes behalwe Thithi, het betoog die verdagtes kan nie borgtog van R100 000, wat deur die staat versoek word, bekostig nie. Hulle is invloedryk en ryk in terme van hul bates, maar daar is verbande daarop. Sy kliënte het sekere verantwoordelikhede en verpligtinge.

Nel, wat borgtog van R30 000 vir elk van sy kliënte voorgestel het, het betoog: "R30 000 is in enige mense se terme baie geld."

Streeklanddros Jan Greyvenstein het in sy uitspraak in die aansoek gesê die verdagtes is in ernstige oortredings gëmpliseer.

Sithole het getuig die Skerpioene het die munisipaliteit se Bram Fischer-gebou in Junie deurgesoek. Dit het "baie getuienis" uit dokumente en data van die verdagtes en ander mense se rekenaars opgelewer wat kan bewys die munisipaliteit is met sowat R150 miljoen bedrieg.

Hy het klagtes ontvang van verskeie getuies wat verklarings afgelê het, dat van die verdagtes geprobeer het om inligting by hulle (die getuies) te kry oor wat aan die Skerpioene gesê is. Die Mokoena-egpaar en Matlole is hierin gëmpliseer, het Sithole getuig.

Hy het getuig die hooggeregshof het Vrydag 'n lasbrief uitgereik vir 'n tweede deursoeking by die munisipaliteit.

Tenders van die munisipaliteit is toegeken aan maatskappye wat aan die verdagtes behoort het. Die fakture is op die verdagtes se rekenaars gemaak, het hy getuig.

Talle ondersoeke word gedoen teen mnr. Mokoena. Die maatskappy THM word in sy geval ondersoek. Maatskappye wat deur mev. Mokoena en haar familieledede besit word, word ook ondersoek.

Sithole het in kruisondervraging getuig meer as 15 maatskappye en al die tenders wat deur die munisipaliteit aan dié maatskappye toegeken is, word ondersoek.

Hy het getuig die bedrieglike transaksies wat deur mnr. Mokoena aangegaan is, beloop na raming sowat R15 miljoen; die bedrog deur Matlole beloop meer as R120 miljoen - waar twee maatskappye betrokke is en dié deur Silwana meer as R3 miljoen.

Sithole het getuig die verdagtes het diensleweringkontrakte bënvlloed en toegeken aan die maatskappye wat aan hulle behoort.

Hy het getuig die bedrog wat deur Zumane gepleeg is, beloop meer as R2 miljoen; en mev. Mokoena het sekere voordele van meer as R15 miljoen deur haar man se invloed verkry.

Mnr. Mokoena het die munisipaliteit bënvlloed sodat diensleweringkontrakte aan sy vrou gegee kon word. Dit is korrupsie, het Sithole getuig.

"Die R15 miljoen is uit die munisipaliteit se geld betaal."

- Die Burger Wes

Nog 5 in hof na Pappie-hulle

2006-10-14 02:27

Druk hierdie artikel

Mike van Rooyen

VYF mense van Bloemfontein, Pretoria en Durban het kort ná die voormalige burgemeester van Bloemfontein en sy medebeskuldigdes in die Bloemfonteinse streekhof verskyn op aanklagte wat verband hou met die beweerde diefstal, bedrog en korrupsie waarop die eerste burger en sy groep verskyn het.

Mes. Buyelwa Khethelo (32) van Rocklands, Givenchy Lydia Hoffman (26) van Heidedal en mnr. Vusimuzi Francis Ndlovo (44) van Durban is op borgtog van R10 000 elk uitgelaat.

Mnre. Lehlohonolo M.P. Nakedi (44) en Moloi George Finger, albei van Pretoria, is op borgtog van R15 000 elk uitgelaat.

Meeste van hulle is Donderdag in hegtenis geneem en een gister. Hul verhoor is tot 2 Februarie volgende jaar in die streekhof uitgestel.

Almal se verskynings spruit uit 'n ondersoek van die Skerpioene na miljoene rande van die Mangaung-munisipaliteit wat weg is.

Net voor hul verskyning is die verhoor van mnr. Pappie Mokoena, sy vrou, Granny, mnre. Motlalepula Thithi (die munisipaliteit se geskorste politieke raadgewer), Mojalefa (J.J.) Matlole (voormalige munisipale bestuurder), Mzwandile Silwana (voormalige munisipale bedryfshoof) en Zongezile Zumane (die geskorste speaker), me. Evodia Kok (Zumane se persoonlike assistent) en mnre. Keamogecoe en Kegomoditswe Lekone, tweelingbroers en sakemanne, tot 26 Junie volgende jaar in die Vrystaatse hooggeregshof uitgestel.

'n Lasbrief is vir die inhegtenisneming van me. Laetitia Hoffman, Mokoena se persoonlike assistent, uitgereik.

Die lasbrief word oorgehou tot 26 Junie. 'n Mediese sertifikaat vir haar is gister by die hof ingedien.

'n Lys van 109 staatsgetuies waarmee die beskuldigdes in albei verskynings nie direk of indirek in aanraking mag kom nie, is ook aan hulle gegee.

- Volksblad

Ek weet nie hoekom ek hier is, sê Pappie

2011-10-10 22:20

Druk hierdie artikel

Mike van Rooyen

“EK weet nie hoekom ek hier is nie. Ek het my beste vir die mense van Mangaung gedoen,” het mnr. Pappie Mokoena, voormalige burgemeester van die Mangaung-munisipaliteit, gister in die Vrystaatse hooggeregshof getuig.

Hy het voor regter A. Kruger in die verhoor waar hy, sy vrou, Granny, en ander hooggeplaaste amptenare van die munisipaliteit van rampokkery, bedrog, korrupsie, geldwassery en diefstal aangekla word, getuig dat hy geen voordeel getrek het uit enige van die transaksies met die munisipaliteit nie. Hy het ook geen wanvoorstellings oor spyseniering aan die munisipaliteit gemaak om geldelike voordeel vir hom of sy familie te bekom of tenders kry nie.

Hy het niks te doen gehad met die reëlings van gesellighede of ’n keuse uitgeoefen oor wie dié dienste lewer nie. Hy was op baie gesellighede van die munisipaliteit, maar het nie geweet wie die spyseniers was nie.

Van die ondernemings of mense wat in die klagstaat genoem word, het hy van geweet, maar nie sake mee gedoen nie. Van die ander het hy die eerste keer in die hof van gehoor.

Dit was nie deel van sy pligte om aankope te doen of dienste vir die munisipaliteit te bekom nie. Dit was die plig van die verskillende afdelingshoofde.

In sy tyd as burgemeester was die Mangaung-munisipaliteit as die beste in die Vrystaat aangewys, sover dit sy finansiële bestuur aangaan.

Hy het geen ambisie gehad om burgemeester te word nie, maar was deur die ANC-leierskap gevra om die werk te doen. Nie almal was daarmee tevrede nie en somers vroeg in sy termyn was daar “magte” teen hom.

Van die raadslede in sy stadsraad wou hom in ’n swak lig stel. Ondersoeke deur die destydse Skerpioene en die openbare beskermers het ook niks opgelewer nie. “Ek het in moeilike omstandighede ’n onderneming bestuur.”

Hy het getuig sy vrou is 'n baie bekwame sakevrou uit eie reg. Hul huis in William Trollipstraat was soos 'n treinstasie soos mense in- en uitbeweeg het. Hulle het sake met haar gedoen en by haar raad gevra.

Van die ander beskuldigdes is mnr. Jakes Thithi, voormalige politieke raadgewer van die munisipaliteit, mnre. Mojalefa Matlole, 'n voormalige stadsbestuurder, Zongezile Zumane, 'n voormalige speaker, en Mzwandile Silwana, voormalige bedryfshoof van die munisipaliteit, die tweeling, mnre. Kegomodicoe en Keabecoe Lekone, me. Lidia Hoffman van Heidedal, me. Laetitia Hoffman, die gewese persoonlike assistent van Mokoena, en me. Buyelwa Khethelo, 'n sakevrou van Rocklands. Altesaam 259 aanklagte is by hul verhoor betrokke. Nie almal word op al die aanklagte aangekla nie.

Adv. Johann Nel, in opdrag van mnr. Nico Dreyer van Honey-prokureurs, adv. Pieter Nel van die Regshulpraad en mnr. Nelson Majola verskyn namens die beskuldigdes. Adv. Johan de Nysschen kla aan. Die verhoor duur voort.

- Volksblad

ONS STAD: 'Hulle moet gaan!'

2005-07-28 15:28

Druk hierdie artikel

Marietjie Gericke

DIE burgemeester en speaker moet bedank! Skors die res van die topamptenary in die Mangaung Gate-sage summier sonder enige verdere betaling van salarisse totdat hulle in die hof skuldig of onskuldig bevind word en verbied die burgemeestersvrou die munisipale geboue!

Só reageer 'n paar raadslede en politici van Bloemfontein oor die omstredenheid waarin die Mangaung-raad die afgelope week gedompel is toe sy uitvoerende burgemeester, mnr. Pappie Mokoena (48), dié se vrou, mev. Granny Mokoena, die stadsbestuurder, mnr. Mojalefa Matlole (41), die speaker, mnr. Zongezile Zumane (38), mnr. Mzwandile Silwana (38), die bedryfshoof, en Mokoena se politieke raadgewer, mnr. Motlalepule Jacob Thithi (41), deur die Skerpioene in hegtenis geneem is en op aanklagte van vermeende bedrog, diefstal en korrupsie van sowat R150 miljoen in die landdroshof moes verskyn.

Die ANC sal glo vandag besluit oor die pad vorentoe in hierdie uiters moeilike situasie voor die landswye munisipale verkiesing wat in Februarie gehou gaan word.

Kenners sê Mokoena het destyds nie geskroom om sy uitvoerende raadslid, mev. Alma Cronjé, wat in omstredenheid gehul was, te dwing om te bedank nie. Dit was ondanks die feit dat daar geen formele klag teen haar ingedien is nie. Teen Mokoena is daar nou amptelike strafregtelike klagtes ingedien en hy is in hegtenis geneem.

Dit, tesame met die wyse hoe pres. Thabo Mbeki vir adjunk-president Jacob Zuma gehanteer het, behoort die ANC ook te dwing om die betrokkenes te vra om te bedank. Politieke kenners meen dat indien die ANC dit nie sou doen nie, dit vir hulle geweldige negatiewe implikasies op die vooraand van die verkiesing kan hê.

Volgens die riglyne van die Strukturewet kan 'n burgemeester en 'n speaker slegs uit hulle poste onthef word indien meer as 20% van die raadslede 'n beswaarskrif onderteken waarin hulle vra vir 'n spesiale vergadering om dan die speaker en die burgemeester te onthef van hul pligte. Ná en die indien daar so 'n beswaarskrif is, kan die vergadering eers 21 dae later plaasvind.

Adv. Seef Hefer, kous-leier van die DA, sê die DA dring aan op die onmiddellike bedanking van die burgemeester en die speaker en die skorsing van die amptenare betrokke hangende die uitslag van die strafverhoor.

Mnr. Gert Fouché, raadslid van die Vryheidsfront+, sê hy sou wou sien dat dié mense onmiddellik geskors word totdat hulle in die hof skuldig bevind is. Regsmenings moet ingewin word, maar die betrokkenes behoort ook sonder enige verdere salaris of vergoeding geskors te word.

Mnr. Lefuo Gauta, lid van die ANC se uitvoerende komitee in die raad, sê die burgemeester en die amptenary van Mangaung wat vandeeweek in die hof verskyn het, moet gehanteer word asof hulle onskuldig is totdat hulle skuldig bewys kan word.

- Die Burger Wes

ONS STAD: Burgemeester is sy 'amp nie waardig'

2005-07-28 15:28

Druk hierdie artikel

Marietjie Gericke

DIE uitvoerende burgemeester van die Mangaung-munisipaliteit, mnr. Pappie Mokoena, het te veel mag en is met sy omstredenheid toe hy vandeewee saam met vyf ander weens korrupsie en bedrog in hegtenis geneem is, die amp as burgemeester nie waardig nie. Hy doen die stad 'n groot oneer aan met al die negatiewe publisiteit wat nou vir Bloemfontein gegenereer word. Hulle hoop dat hy die amp nie weer sal beklee nie.

Só reageer 'n klompie oudburgemeesters van die stad oor die groot drama wat hom vandeewee in Bloemfontein afgespeel het toe Mokoena, sy vrou, mev. Granny Mokoena, die stadsbestuurder, mnr. Mojalefa Matlole, die speaker, mnr. Zongezile Zumane, die bedryfshoof, mnr. Mzwandile Silwana, en Mokoena se politieke adviseur, mnr. Motlalepule Jacob Thithi, deur die Skerpioene in hegtenis geneem is as die "vermeende groot geeste en/of hulpverleners" met korrupsie en bedrog van sowat R150 miljoen.

Mnr. Frik Jankowitz, oudburgemeester van die laat jare tagtig, sê: "As die stelsel nie gaan verander nie, gaan ons bly sit met korrupsie. 'n Mens kan nie soveel mag in een man se hand sit om die stad te bestuur nie. Daar moet 'n uitvoerende of bestuurskomitee wees wat 'n dag lank oor sake besluit. Geen vergadering begin deesdae betyds by die Mangaung-raad nie en daar is altyd raadslede afwesig."

Jankowitz sê in sy dae het hulle geen vergoeding as burgemeester gekry nie. "Ons het 'n toelae gekry en as jy dit oorskrei, het jy inbetaal. Dit was nie soos die oop tjekboek van vandag nie. Ons moes baie hard werk."

Mnr. Norman Doubell, nog 'n oudburgemeester van Bloemfontein vir twee termyne, sê wat nou gebeur is om van te ween.

"Ek is verskriklik lief vir Bloemfontein en dit is jammer dat die stad nou soveel negatiewe publisiteit kry. Mense kyk verby mense wanneer hulle van elders oor Bloemfontein praat en vra wat in Bloemfontein aangaan. Die burgemeester is baie in die kalklig. Hy moet weet hoe om reg op te tree."

Mnr. Neels Neuhoff, oudburgemeester van Bloemfontein in 1988, reken ook dat die uitvoerende burgemeester deesdae te veel magte het. Dit stel hom bloot aan nepotisme en ongerymdhede wat hieruit voortvloei. Hy hoop dat Mokoena nie weer sy amp as

burgemeester sal opneem nie, want hy doen die amp met die omstredenheid rondom hom geen eer aan nie. Hy doen die stad ook geen eer aan nie. "Daar was destyds, toe hy by die Waterraad was, ook omstredenheid sodat 'n mens nie verbaas is oor wat nou aangaan nie."

- Die Burger Wes

Stadsbestuurder kla oor Skerpioene se taktiek

2005-07-30 04:23

Druk hierdie artikel

JEANNE-MARIÉ VERSLUIS

DIE effek van die Skerpioene se "heimlike teenwoordigheid en bedrywighede" in die Mangaung-munisipaliteit het skadelik geword.

Só lui 'n verslag van die kantoor van dié munisipaliteit se stadsbestuurder, mnr. Mojalefa Matlole, wat gister op 'n spesiale raadsvergadering aan raadslede uitgedeel is.

'n Waarnemende uitvoerende burgemeester en 'n waarnemende speaker is op die vergadering verkies nadat mnr. Pappie Mokoena, die burgemeester, en mnr. Zongezile Zumane, die speaker, met verlof is.

Mokoena, Zumane, Matlole, mnr. Mzwandile Silwana, die bedryfshoof, mnr. Motlalepula Jacob Thithi, Mokoena se politieke raadgewer, asook Mokoena se vrou, Granny, is Maandag deur die Skerpioene in verband met korrupsie en bedrog in hegtenis geneem. Hulle is intussen op borgtog vrygelaat.

Die verslag, wat 'n aanhangsel tot 'n item op die sakelys was, lui: "Vir die laaste sewe tot agt weke het dit onder ons aandag gekom dat die lede van die Skerpioene alle metodes gebruik het om ons personeel oor te haal om 'inligting' aan hulle te gee. Die besonderhede daarvan was 'n raaisel !"

Matlole het die hoof van die Skerpioene in die provinsie versoek om op te hou met "onsmaaklike" taktiek wat die munisipaliteit onwerkbaar sal maak. Dié versoek is op 20 Junie gerig, lui die dokument.

Die Skerpioene se reaksie op die versoek was 'n "dramatiese inbesitneming" van die munisipaliteit se Bram Fischer-gebou op 23 Junie. "Dit het gelei tot die onvermoë om sekere van ons noodsaaklike dienste te lewer."

Die verslag lui verder die munisipaliteit het 'n hofbevel gekry dat die Skerpioene afskrifte van alle dokumente waarop beslag gelê is, teen 13 Julie aan die munisipaliteit moet verskaf.

- Die Burger Wes

Jy's net 'n baasboy! - gehoor in parlement

2005-11-04 00:59

Pappie weer op kantoor

GERT COETZEE

KAAPSTAD. - "Jy's net 'n baasboy!"

Dié skeldnaam wat gister in die Nasionale Vergadering deur 'n anonieme ANC lid aan 'n swart DA-LP geskree is, is sterk deur die parlement veroordeel. Dit het nie die skuldige oorgehaal om na vore te kom nie.

'n Relletjie is ontketen toe mnr. Mpolwe Swathe, DA LP van Limpopo, in 'n ledestelling gesê het die ANC se hantering van mnr. Pappie Mokoena, "omstrede Bloemfonteinse burgemeester", wys dié party se bekamping van korrupsie is net bekpraatjies.

Swathe is in sy spreukbeurt uit die staanspoor deur ANC LP's gekap. Hy het dit betreur dat die ANC nie die Mangaungse stadsraad sover kon kry om Mokoena uit sy pos te onthef nie. Mokoena en ander is van beweerde korrupsie aangekla.

Mnr. Donald Lee, Oos Kaapse DA LP, het op 'n punt van orde beswaar aangeteken daaroor dat 'n ANC lid vir Swathe die woord "baasboy" toegejou het.

Me. Gwen Mahlangu, adjunkspeaker, wou weet of Lee weet wie dit uitgeroep het.

"Nee, maar die stem was bekend. Dit het soos mnr. Danny Oliphant geklink," het Lee gesê.

Olifant, ook 'n Oos Kaapenaar, het toegegee hy het 'n "pragtige stem", maar ontken hy is die uitskeller.

Mnr. Mbulelo Goniwe, ANC sweep, wou die uitroep namens die ANC koukus onttrek.

Mahlangu het bevind dit kan ingevolge parlementêre reëls nie só geskied nie.

"As iemand dit geskree het, bly dit heeltemal onparlementêr en in swak smaak," het sy gesê.

- Volksblad

Bedrog in Bfn: Nog 20 in visier

2006-04-17 00:56

[Druk hierdie artikel](#)

Verwante skakels

- [Pappie se regte 'is aangetas'](#)

Jeanne-Marié Versluis

NOG minstens 20 mense gaan glo deur die Skerpioene in hegtenis geneem word in verband met die sowat R170 miljoen waarmee die Mangaung-munisipaliteit na bewering deur sy voormalige burgemeester en nog nege mense bedrieg is.

Intussen help die ouditeursfirma KPMG met die ondersoek na dié beweerde bedrog.

Hy het die nasionale vervolgingsgesag (NVG) sowat R5 miljoen vir dié werk gekwoteer.

Dit blyk uit getuienis wat in 'n aansoek van die staat gelewer is in die Bloemfonteinse streekhof toe die voormalige Mangaung-burgemeester, mnr. Pappie Mokoena, en nege medeverdagtes weer hier verskyn het.

Dié tien het Donderdag 'n paar uur in die hof deurgebring toe adv. Louis van Niekerk namens die staat 'n aansoek om uitstel van die saak tot Vrydag 13 Oktober ingedien het en die verdediging dit teengestaan het.

Mokoena, sy vrou, Granny, mnre. Motlalepula Thithi (die munisipaliteit se geskorste politieke raadgewer), Mojalefa (J.J) Matlole (voormalige munisipale bestuurder), Mzwandile Silwana (voormalige munisipale bedryfshoof) en Zongezile Zumane (die geskorste speaker) is die oorspronklike ses verdagtes wat op 25 Julie verlede jaar in hegtenis geneem is.

Nog vier mense wat einde verlede jaar in hegtenis geneem is, het Donderdag saam met dié ses in die hof verskyn. Dit is Mokoena se persoonlike assistent, me. Laetitia Hoffman, me. Evodia Kok (Zumane se persoonlike assistent) en mnre. Keamogecoe en Kegomoditswe Lekone, tweelingbroers en sakemanne.

Mnr. Sosabo Jacob Sithole, senior spesiale ondersoeker van die NVG, het vir die staat getuig agt "sub-ondersoeke" word nou gedoen in die "hele projek" van die Mangaung-ondersoek.

“Al tien verdagtes word geïmpliseer in die agt ondersoeke.”

Die ondersoeke gaan oor beweerde bedrog en ander misdade wat sowat R170 miljoen beloop. Die misdade is van 2000 tot verlede jaar gepleeg.

Dit handel oor die verdagtes se “transaksies” met die munisipaliteit, het hy getuig.

Omdat meer mense nodig is sodat die Skerpioene se Bloemfontein-kantoor die agt ondersoeke kan doen, is van die werk aan KPMG uitgekонтakteer. Dié firma het voorverlede week hieraan begin werk.

“In dié stadium moet hulle (KPMG) meer as 500 000 dokumente skandeer en ontleed. Dit hou verband met die agt ondersoeke na die tydperk van 2000 tot 2005,” het Sithole getuig.

Die teikendatum vir die uitbring van die KPMG-verslag is 30 September.

Hy het getuig “meer as 20 verdagtes” gaan aangekeer word wie “onderling verbind word” met die huidige tien.

Streeklanddros A.J. Pienaar het die staat se aansoek om uitstel van die saak toegestaan.

- Volksblad

Tronkstraf gevra vir munisipale amptenare

2012-10-23 05:45

Druk hierdie artikel

Mike van Rooyen

TRONKSTRAF is die enigste logiese en toepaslike straf vir die voormalige amptenare van die Mangaung-munisipaliteit en sakemense wat die munisipaliteit uit meer as R16,5 miljoen bedrieg het, het adv. Johan de Nysschen gister in die Vrystaatse hooggeregshof betoog.

Hy het gesê die munisipale amptenare het roekeloos en blatant met die belastingbetalers se geld gewerk om hulself te verryk.

Munisipaliteite in die land is om presies dieselfde rede op die punt om ineen te stort. Dienste kan nie gelewer word nie omdat die geld daarvoor gesteel word.

Hy het namens die staat voor regter A. Kruger gevra dat die hof vir Mzwa-ndile Silwana, voormalige bedryfshoof van die munisipaliteit, minstens vir 15 jaar tronk toe stuur en vir Zongezile Zumane, 'n voormalige speaker, en Jakes Thithi, voormalige politieke raadgewer van die munisipaliteit, elk vir minstens 12 jaar.

Hulle is al drie aan bedrog en geldwassery skuldig bevind en Zumane is ook aan korrupsie skuldig bevind.

Hy het gevra dat die Lekone-tweeling van Heidedal, Kegomodicoe en Keabecoe, en Laetitia Scheepers (voorheen Hoffman), die gewese persoonlike assistent van die destydse burgemeester, Pappie Mokoena, ook tot minstens 15 jaar tronkstraf gevonnissen word. Hulle is op dieselfde aanklagte van bedrog en geldwassery skuldig bevind.

Vir Evodia Kok, die gewese persoonlike assistent van Zumane, het hy 12 jaar tronkstraf gevra en vir Givency Hoffman, gewese persoonlike assistent van Mojalefa Matlole, 'n voormalige stadsbestuurder, en Buyelwa Khethelo, 'n sakevrou van Rocklands, elk tien jaar tronkstraf.

Vir Silwana se vrou, Brigitte, wat aan geldwassery en bedrog skuldig bevind is, kan moontlik van die voorgeskrewe minimum straf afgewyk word omdat sy onder haar man se invloed die misdade gepleeg het.

Adv. Pieter Nel het namens die Silwanas, Zumane, Thithi, Scheepers en Kok betoog hulle is

goeie mense materiaal wat in die lewe presteer het en baie talente het.

Die getuienis het getoon dat oor die algemeen is die werk waarvoor die munisipaliteit betaal het, gelewer en het die munisipaliteit dus waarde vir sy geld gekry.

Nelson Majola het namens die Lekones, Hoffman, Khethelo en haar beslote korporasie R & B Bed & Breakfast Catering and Events, handeldrywend as Rhythm and Blues, betoog nuwe wetgewing het in werking getree in die tydperk van 2001 tot 2005 toe die misdade gepleeg is. Dit het groot onsekerhede veroorsaak. Die aankoopprosesse was nie duidelik uitgestippel nie.

Sy kliënte het reeds baie verloor sedert die vervolging teen hulle begin is en hulle gaan nou, ná hul skuldigbevindings, weer baie verloor. Hy het gevra dat hul vonnisse samelopend uitgedien moet word.

Hulle word vanoggend gevonniss.

Pappie hang dan nog steeds

2005-11-23 20:03

Druk hierdie artikel

U joernaliste, Mike van Rooyen (28/10/05) en Debbie Sauer (19/10/05 en 21/10/05) se jongste berigte oor die nimlike mnr. J.L. (Pappie) Mokoena, uitvoerende burgemeester van Mangaung (Bloemfontein), verwys.

Dit is gemene saak dat Mokoena en vyf ander in Julie vir beweerde tenderbedrog in hegtenis geneem en verhoorafwagtend is.

Daar word in die betrokke berigte daarna verwys dat hy as uitvoerende burgemeester "uitgeskop" is, vrywillig en toe ook nie meer vrywillig nie, met verlof is.

Die ANC se Vrystaatse leierskap het Mokoena se "kop laat rol", hy is van senior posisies in die ANC onthef en me. Eva Moilwa neem as eerste burger in sy plek waar.

Ten spyte van die gebeure om Pappie se posisie, is dit ontstellend opvallend dat in die betaalsaal (water en ligte) in die Glaspaleis, 'n groot, geraamde kleurfoto van Pappie nog steeds neffens die ontvangstoonbank teen die muur pryk. Dit is daar aangebring toe hy burgemeester geword het en klein afdrucke van die foto is op sleutelhouers wat by die Glaspaleis gesmous is.

Kan 'n tender nie maar gevra word vir die afhaal en verwydering van die foto nie. Pappie Mokoena is, volgens die berigte, nou maar 'n gewone raadslid en die volgehoue hang van sy geraamde foto - die enigste van die huidige raadslede - skep 'n onverkwiklike presedent.

André Potgieter
Posbus 17756,
Bainsvlei,
Bloemfontein

- Volksblad

'Thank God for my acquittal'

19 Oct 2012 | Ntwaagae Seleka Free State Correspondent

"It has been a tough journey for me and my wife. My image has been tarnished but I applaud the legal system"



A FREE MAN: Former Mangaung mayor, Papi Mokoena, could not hold back his tears after he was acquitted by the Bloemfontein High Court yesterday. PHOTO: NTWAAGAE SELEKA

FORMER Mangaung municipality mayor Papi Mokoena could not control his emotions when he was acquitted by the Bloemfontein High Court yesterday.

Mokoena, who had tears running down his face, thanked God for his acquittal.

Judge Albert Kruger acquitted Mokoena, his wife Granny and former municipal manager Mojalefa Matlole on all the counts they had been charged with.

Mokoena was found not guilty of 163 charges, his wife 16 and Matlole 223 counts.

The charges included corruption, fraud, racketeering, theft and money laundering.

"It has been a tough journey for me and my wife. My image has been tarnished but I applaud the legal system.

"The basis of the charges levelled at me made me think that there was an ulterior motive against me.

"After being arrested I never ran but faced my challenges squarely. I have been praying since my arrest in 2007," he said.

Mokoena said his arrest was a witch-hunt by people who wanted to "settle scores".

"I was shocked when I applied for financial assistance from the government and was not assisted because I was arrested while serving as mayor.

"Other government officials who were arrested while in office received financial assistance," Mokoena said.

A very excited Matlole jumped up and down and hugged Mokoena before leaving the courtroom.

"I have mixed feelings. It has been a strenuous seven-and-half years for me, my family and all those who believed that I was innocent.

"This case has taken its toll on me and my family My image has been tarnished and I received bad coverage from the media," Matlole said.

Both Matlole and Mokoena said they planned to consult with their legal teams about what steps to take.

Their co-accused Zongezile Zumane, couple Mzwandile and Bridget Silwana, Motlalepule Thithi, Kegomodicoe and Keabecoe Lekone, Letitia and Givenchy Hoffman, Evodia Kok and Buyelwa Khethelo, were found guilty on charges including fraud and money laundering.

They were all acquitted on charges of racketeering.

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Manguang municipality exploited

October 18 2012 at 07:02pm
By Andre Grobler

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INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPERS

File picture - PAPPIE MOKOENA, Former executive mayor of Mangaung Local Municipality.

Bloemfontein - The Mangaung municipality's financial system was exploited by officials and business people to make money, the Bloemfontein High Court found on Thursday.

Judge A Kruger dismissed allegations of a racketeering enterprise at the Mangaung municipality and acquitted former Mangaung mayor Pappie Mokoena and his wife Granny of these and other charges.

He also found former municipal manager Mojalefa Matlole not guilty of fraud and racketeering charges.

However, five other former Mangaung officials and four business people were found guilty on several charges of fraud and money-laundering.

They were the former municipal speaker Zongezile Zumane, former business manager Mzwandile Silwana and Jakes Thithi, a political adviser.

Others were Silwana's wife Brigitte, Evodia Kok (Zumane's personal assistant), Laetitia Hoffman (Mokoena's personal assistant), Buyelwa Khethelo, a businesswoman from Rocklands, and two Heidedal businessmen, Keabecoe and Kegomodicoe Lekone.

The State alleged that the group used the executive mayor's office at the municipality as an enterprise for racketeering activities.

The alleged racketeering acts related to catering, consultancy and contract services.

Judge Kruger did not agree.

"The lack of such intent common to all becomes apparent if one looks at the wide and diverse range of activities committed by a wide range of different people."

He said the only common motive was to exploit a dysfunctional financial system through a wide range of activities to make money.

The court found the Mangaung municipality's procurement procedures and policies were not clear at the time when the fraudulent acts were committed.

"The evidence of officials from the finance department illustrate that there was confusion."

Kruger held that rules related to declaration of interests were not understood in the same manner by all, and were generally flouted.

Mokoena said he was relieved at his acquittal, but was saddened at the guilty verdicts against the others.

“It is unfortunate the State had targeted other people, who were now convicted.”

Mokoena said he was the main target of a malicious prosecution, which had lasted for more than seven years.

“It was aimed to destroy my reputation and integrity, my image.”

He said it was obvious that the municipality at the time, as an institution, had been targeted by people who had used state machinery for a takeover.

The trial followed an investigation by the now-disbanded Scorpions into the Mangaung local municipality.

This led to the arrests of Mokoena and the others in 2005.

Kruger postponed the matter to Monday for arguments before sentencing. - Sapa

Fraud-accused ex-mayor didn't want job

2011-10-10 21:32

Bloemfontein - Fraud accused and former Mangaung mayor Pappie Mokoena had no ambition to become mayor, but was asked to stand by the ANC, the Free State High Court in Bloemfontein heard on Monday.

Mokoena was testifying in his own defence in a multi-million rand Mangaung fraud and racketeering trial.

The former mayor and 18 others face 259 charges, including theft and money laundering involving an estimated R130m.

Not all the accused face all the charges.

Mokoena testified that he was asked to be part of an internal Free State leadership structure in 1998 after the ANC national executive committee disbanded the provincial leadership structure.

"There was a lot of infighting at the time," he said.

The move ended in the ANC's redeployment of former Free State premier Mosiuoa "Terror" Lekota, who is now the leader of the Congress of the People, to national ANC structures.

Mokoena testified that the 2000 local government election was at hand and the ANC leadership at the time wanted him as Mangaung mayor.

He said not everybody was happy with the move and there were a lot of "negative perceptions to the mayor elect".

Mokoena told Judge A Kruger "forces" were against him as mayor from the start.

He testified that this "pattern" of negativity from within the municipal council continued and that "people" constantly sent information to newspapers about his alleged involvement in irregularities.

It was submitted that the public protector at the time investigated Mokoena due to "ongoing complaints send by councillors to the media" but found no wrongdoing on his part.

He said the auditor general - in a report at the time - exonerated him on certain matters investigated.

Mokoena's legal counsel Johann Nel led testimony on his client's professional and private relationships with the other accused in the matter.

This was mostly around entities which had done business in catering and construction with the municipality, and included Koena Foods, a catering business of his wife's mother.

The former mayor also testified on various aspects such as how the municipal management functioned during his time.

Mokoena, his wife Granny, former municipal manager Mojalefa Matlole, former municipal speaker Zongezile Zumane, and former business manager Mzwandile Silwana face charges of fraud and racketeering.

Other accused include Jakes Thithi, the political adviser to the former mayor, Silwana's wife Brigitte, Evodia Kok (Zumane's personal assistant) and Laetitia Hoffman (Mokoena's personal assistant), Buyelwa Khethelo, a businesswoman from Rocklands, Soweto, and two Heidedal businessmen, Keabecoe and Kegomodicoe Lekone.

The trial followed an investigation by the now-disbanded Scorpions.

The matter continues.

- SAPA



Report on ex-mayor 'skewed'

2010-01-18 19:03

Bloemfontein - The forensic audit report by KPMG in the racketeering trial of former Mangaung mayor Pappie Mokoena is "skewed and incorrect", the Free State High Court heard on Monday.

Johan Nel, defence attorney for Mokoena, told the State's first witness, KPMG forensic auditor Cornelius Fourie, that the report created a false impression for the reader.

Mokoena, his wife, and 18 others face a total of 259 charges including fraud, theft, corruption and money laundering involving an estimated R130m.

The case follows an investigation by the now-disbanded Scorpions into the Mangaung local municipality in 2005.

The matter resumed with Nel cross-examining Fourie on the 600-page report, which he testified to in 2009.

900 000 pages of evidence

The report was supported by evidence of some 900 000 pages, which includes statements of the municipal bank account, those of various companies, copies of invoices, municipal memoranda, other documents and e-mails.

On Monday, Nel questioned Fourie on the evidence (documents) on which the report was based.

Referring to handwritten notes on some documents, allegedly written by some of the accused endorsing catering events, Nel submitted that "mirror images" of the same notes appeared on other documents on different dates.

He argued that it was obvious that the same notes had been "copied" to different documents and that the report did not tell the reader to "take cognisance" thereof.

'False impression' created

Nel submitted that the report also stated "categorically" in some aspects that accused 1 (Mokoena) had approved events which was not the case.

"Your report creates a false impression to the reader," he said.

The other accused include the former municipal manager Mojalefa Matlole, former municipal speaker Zongezile Zumane, former business manager Mzwandile Silwana, and Jakes Thithi, a political adviser to the former mayor.

Also included were Silwana's wife Brigitte, Evodia Kok (Zumane's personal assistant), Laetitia Hoffman (Mokoena's personal assistant), Buyelwa Khethelo, a businesswoman from Rocklands, and two Heidedal businessmen -Keabecoe en Kegomodicoe Lekone.

The trial continues on Tuesday.

- SAPA



Ex-Mangaung mayor, wife acquitted

2012-10-18 17:11

[Print this article](#)



Bloemfontein - Former Mangaung mayor Pappie Mokoena and his wife Granny were acquitted on fraud and other charges in the Free State High Court in Bloemfontein on Thursday.

Another accused, former Mangaung municipal manager Mojalefa Matlole, was also found not guilty on all charges he faced in the case.

The trial followed an investigation by the now-disbanded Scorpions into the Mangaung local municipality. This led to arrests in 2005.

Mokoena and 18 others faced a total of 259 charges, including theft, corruption and money laundering involving an estimated R130m.

Not all the accused faced all the charges.

High Court Judge A Kruger only acquitted Mokoena, his wife and Matlole on all charges they faced.

Other former senior officials, such as the former municipal speaker Zongezile Zumane, former business manager Mzwandile Silwana and Jakes Thithi, a political advisor, were found guilty on some charges related to fraud and money laundering.

Silwana's wife Brigitte, Evodia Kok (Zumane's personal assistant), Laetitia Hoffman (Mokoena's personal assistant), Buyelwa Khethelo, a businesswoman from Rocklands, and two Heidedal businessmen, Keabecoe and Kegomodicoe Lekone, were also found guilty on some charges related to fraud and money laundering. Sapa

- SAPA



Ex-mayor denies getting dirty money

2011-10-11 17:58

Bloemfontein - Former Mangaung mayor and fraud accused Pappie Mokoena denied ever receiving money from his personal assistant for illegal activities, the Free State High Court in Bloemfontein heard on Tuesday.

“Not true, absolutely not true,” said Mokoena during cross-examination in his fraud and racketeering trial.

He was replying to statements by State prosecutor Johan de Nysschen on payments from the bank account of his personal assistant at the municipality, Laetitia Hoffman, into his account.

Earlier, De Nysschen asked Mokoena why she would make large cash deposits into his bank account.

Mokoena was testifying in his own defence in a multi-million rand Mangaung fraud and racketeering trial.

The former mayor and 18 others face 259 charges, including theft and money laundering involving an estimated R130m. Not all the accused face all the charges.

Mokoena testified that from time to time Hoffman paid money into his account for allowances and travel expenses.

He submitted that in many instances the municipality's cheques were cleared with the bank to allow them to have cash for expenses, instead of waiting for the seven-day clearance period.

The former mayor denied this was "fraud money" or "stolen money".

Earlier, De Nysschen showed the court allegedly fraudulent invoices found on Hoffman's work computer for catering services worth thousands of rand.

Mokoena, his wife Granny, former municipal manager Mojalefa Matlole, former municipal speaker Zongezile Zumane, and former business manager Mzwandile Silwana face charges of fraud and racketeering.

Other accused include Jakes Thithi, the political adviser to the former mayor, Silwana's wife Brigitte, Evodia Kok (Zumane's personal assistant) and Hoffman (Mokoena's personal assistant), Buyelwa Khethelo, a businesswoman from Rocklands, Soweto, and two Heidedal businessmen, Keabecoe and Kegomodicoe Lekone.

The trial followed an investigation by the now-disbanded Scorpions.

Mokoena was also questioned about his knowledge of Koena Foods, a catering business of Granny's mother.

He said Koena Foods had been doing business with the municipality long before he became mayor, and that his wife resigned as partner soon after his election.

Mokoena denied he was forced to declare his and his family's business interests when he became mayor.

"No, sir it's not correct. We had to do it, not because the issue was mentioned [a problem]," he said.

The case continues.

- SAPA



605-page report delays trial

2010-01-21 17:01



Bloemfontein -

The racketeering trial of former Mangaung Mayor Pappie Mokoena and 18 others was on Thursday postponed for the defence to study documented answers supplied by the State's forensic audit witness.

Presiding Judge A Kruger postponed the matter earlier this week to Thursday during cross-examination of the State's first witness, Cornelius Fourie, of KPMG's forensic department.

Mokoena's defence attorney Johan Nel, who also represents four other accused, was meticulously questioning Fourie on his clients' alleged business dealings with the Mangaung Local Council.

The process was slowed because after each question, Fourie would have to spend several minutes paging through a 605-page forensic report to look

for the answer.

Question and answer

Relying on the concept "that a lawyer would not ask a question, of which he does not know the answer" it was agreed in court that Nel would furnish Fourie a list of his questions, and that Fourie would compile an additional report by Wednesday morning.

On Thursday, the State and the defence teams met in chambers. The court was later told the additional report was only received when proceedings started.

Judge Kruger postponed the matter to Monday for the defence to examine the new documents.

Mokoena and co-accused face a total of 259 charges, including theft and money laundering involving an estimated R130m.

The accused

Not all the accused face all the charges.

The case followed an investigation by the now-disbanded Scorpions into the Mangaung Local Municipality.

The accused include former municipal manager Mojalefa Matlole, former municipal speaker Zongezile Zumane, former business manager Mzwandile Silwana, and Jakes Thithi, a political advisor to the former major.

The other accused are Silwana's wife Brigitte, Evodia Kok (Zumane's personal assistant), Laetitia Hoffman (Mokoena's personal assistant), Buyelwa Khethelo, a businesswoman from Rocklands, Soweto, and two Heidedal businessmen, Keabecoe and Kegomodicoe Lekone.



Free State municipal mafia foiled

A ruling to dismiss the Mangaung municipality's top two officials last Friday has highlighted how a group of senior councillors and officials ran an "organised corruption syndicate" that allegedly looted tens of millions of rands from the local authority. The Mangaung Local Municipality ranks among the country's top 10 biggest councils, with a budget of R1,5-billion.

[07 Apr 2006 07:59 - Vicki Robinson](#)

A ruling to dismiss the Mangaung municipality's top two officials last Friday has highlighted how a group of senior councillors and officials ran an "organised corruption syndicate" that allegedly looted tens of millions of rands from the local authority.

The Mangaung Local Municipality, which includes Bloemfontein, Thaba Nchu and Botshabelo, ranks among the country's top 10 biggest councils, with a budget of R1,5-billion.

The arrests by the Scorpions last July of then-Mangaung mayor Papi Mokoena, his wife Granny, his political adviser Jacob Thithi, city manager Mojalefa Matlole, chief operating officer Mzwandile Silwana and then-speaker Zongezile Zumane shook the Free State political establishment.

In October last year the African National Congress fired Mokoena from all his leadership positions. Municipal spokesperson Lele Mamatu said Thithi was still employed by the municipality as new Mayor Gertrude Mothupi's adviser, although he was on suspension. Zumane has left the municipality.

They are all due to appear in court again on April 13, but the charges have not been detailed in public.

This week the *Mail & Guardian* can reveal the extent of the rot, which has come to the surface as a result of the disciplinary proceedings by the municipality against Matlole and Silwana. Both were found guilty last week on a lengthy list of charges by presiding officer Percy Sonn, an advocate and former head of the Scorpions. He recommended dismissal. Durban advocate Roshan Dehal prosecuted.

A council briefing paper obtained by the *M&G* quotes the Scorpions as claiming the corruption topped R150-million — 10% of the municipal budget.

A Scorpions affidavit last June to motivate warrants to search the Mangaung municipal offices described Matlole, Silwana and their political masters as "mastermind[s] behind [an] organised corruption syndicate operating in the Mangaung municipality".

According to the affidavit: "Their modus operandi is to allocate tenders to the companies either owned by their spouses, parents, children, relatives, friends or themselves. In many cases the employees create fictitious invoices for services provided to the municipality and issue cheques to third parties, who will in turn pay them back the money after they have cashed the cheques."

This week several claims were made from within the municipality that the newly elected Mangaung mayor, Gertrude Mothupi, who is the sister of provincial ANC secretary Lobe, had attempted to stifle the council investigation into corruption.

Sources said it was part of an attempt to conceal Lobe's role in the network of corruption. It was also suggested by council insiders that new mayor Mothupi is in the same "ANC camp" as former mayor Mokoena, his former adviser, Thithi, Matlole and Silwana, and that there was a pact among them to protect each other.

Additional claims were made by insiders that the council tried to bring forward a scheduled debate last Friday ahead of Sonn's judgement of Matlole and Silwana in an attempt to pass a motion to stop the disciplinary process against them and therefore nullify the prosecution process.

Mothupi did not provide a direct answer to a written question regarding claims that she was protecting her sister, but said: "The council meeting was not a scheduled meeting but a special meeting to consider, amongst others, council annual reports matters. Indeed, the matter of the suspended senior officials was also itemised. As a new council and leadership we are interested in bringing stability to the municipality ... Surely if there is a need for council to review certain decisions, processes, costs, et cetera, we are entitled to that?"

However, no motion was passed, but council mandated me as executive mayor to compile a report about the process relating to the two officials.”

According to Lobe: “Gertrude [Mothupi] is my sister, but I don’t micromanage the affairs of any municipality, I manage the day-to-day affairs of the ANC. It is wrong for anyone to make the assumption that I’m involved in any municipality’s affairs or that my sister [has attempted to protect me].”

The charge sheets against Silwana and Motlale are also revealing:

- Over the past year Silwana has repeatedly benefited a supplier to the council, Into Marketing, by awarding it contracts in excess of R2-million. Silwana’s wife, Brigitte, is a director of the company.
- In 2004, Matlale approved payment of a socio-economic project grant to the tune of R969 000 to a private company, Moletsetse Communications, to finance a business venture with Cell C, without the requisite council approval.

Hendra Conradie, an attorney for developers Freddie and Irene Kenney, said: “It is impossible to comment because we have not seen the forensic reports upon which these allegations are based.

“The instruction to me was that there was absolutely nothing wrong with the deal. It went out on tender and was above board.”

Poverty is severe in Mangaung. According to Department of Provincial and Local Government documentation 58% of Mangaung’s households live below the poverty line, measured at between R700 and R1 500 per month per household.

The thwarted R79m scam

One of the worst cases of this duplicity—and a key set of charges against Mojalefa Matlale and Mzwandile Silwana—involved locking the municipality into an unauthorised transaction that would have cost R79-million over 12 years for a property that was independently valued at between R14-million and R25-million.

There was no tender.

The land for the same property was sold by the municipality, also without a tender, to the developer for a pittance after the deal had been struck to buy it back in developed form.

According to a forensic study commissioned by the municipality and obtained by the *M&G*, on February 9 last year Matlale and Silwana sold the property to the developer—called the Sue Celken Family Trust—for R184 835. This was about 80% below market value. The trustees of the trust are Freddie and Irene Kenney, apparently friends of Matlale, Silwana and other councillors.

On February 7 2005, two days before the sale, the Sue Celken Trust’s attorneys had prepared a purchase/lease agreement between the trust and the municipality, binding the municipality to repurchase the property for R79-million.

According to the agreement, the trust would build a new regional office for the municipality. The municipality would then occupy the property, paying the purchase price over 12 years, in addition to paying rental until the property was fully paid off.

Kenney initially approached the municipality in January 2004 with this development proposal through the head of the planning department, Wilfred Machogo. Machogo Development Associates (MDA), a corporation that Machogo was associated with before his employment with the council, prepared the Kenney's development application to the municipality.

This week Charlotte Lobe, the ANC secretary in the Free State, confirmed to the *M&G* that she holds 13% of the MDA shares but denied knowledge of the company's mention in any forensic documentation.

"I have been a shareholder for four years already, but I am not aware of any forensic report that names the company," she said.

The purchase/lease agreement was signed on May 31 2005 by Matlole, but only approved by the Executive Council on June 14 2005. Concerns expressed by the finance department about the transaction were squashed by Silwana, who "ordered" the department to issue a favourable comment, according to the forensic study.

"Silwana and Matlole had concluded the transaction and ownership was transferred to the Trust prior to either of them making the required and prescribed disclosures regarding certain aspects of the transactions ... Nowhere during the course of the investigation, could evidence be found of provincial approval obtained by the municipality for the purchase, which is necessary, prior to the conclusion of the transaction," said the forensic documentation relating to the investigation.

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Embattled mayor back in office

2005-11-01 20:43

Bloemfontein - Mangaung mayor Papi Mokoena was back in office on Tuesday after a second spell of leave pending investigations into alleged fraud and corruption at the municipality.

Mokoena went on voluntary leave after being arrested by the Scorpions in July.

He returned to office early in October without informing his party, the African National Congress, and was relieved of all his political leadership positions in the party shortly afterwards.

Free State ANC deputy chairman Pat Matosa said at the time the decision by the party's provincial working committee was taken in the interest of stabilising local government at all levels.

Matosa said: "Disciplinary action shall be taken against comrade Papi Mokoena for not adhering to a legitimate political instruction of the ANC still adhering to agreed voluntary leave of absence he has taken."

The mayor went on leave again, but that apparently expired on Monday, October 31.

Back in the old job

Mokoena is one of five senior municipal officials investigated by the Scorpions on fraud and corruption charges.

Mangaung spokesperson Lele Mamatu confirmed on Tuesday that Mokoena had returned to his "original position" as mayor.

"By law he remains the executive mayor of Mangaung, up until the council takes a decision on his fate as mayor.

"No decision has been taken so far," said Mamatu.

Speaker Zongezile Zumane, who also took voluntary leave of absence after his arrest, has apparently not returned to work.

SAPA