

All correspondences should be addressed to
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**MINISTRY OF LANDS, AGRICULTURE
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MIN LARR/1

07 June 2018



FRAUD ALERT!!

Attention: All Farmers Unions in Zimbabwe

It is with grave concern that people are being duped of their hard-earned cash through unscrupulous individuals who are masquerading, over the phone, as the Honourable Minister of Lands, Agriculture and Rural Resettlement, Air Chief Marshal Perrance Shiri (Rtd).

The modus operandi behind the fraudulent activities is that several individuals have been phoned and a lot are still being phoned by an individual or individuals who misrepresent themselves as Honourable Minister Perrance Shiri. The bogus person (s) would communicate that the recipient's application for land has been approved or that its processing would have reached an advanced stage. Depending on the size of the land purportedly earmarked for allocation, the fraudster would go on to advise the intended victims to urgently pay some varying amounts of money, through eco-cash or electronic funds transfer, in the name of administration fees towards the final allocation of the much needed land.

Notably, victims have been duped through payments to eco-cash numbers **0776 910 616** and **0785 260 449** which are owned by a **Mary Shiri**. The other number which is being used is **0772 944 530** which is in the name of a **Mercey Shiri**. Let it be categorically stated that Honourable Minister of Lands, Agriculture and Rural Resettlement, Air Chief Marshal Perrance Shiri (Rtd), is not, whatsoever, related to the said eco-cash account holders (Mary and Mercey). Worse still, the Minister does not even know them. It should also be noted that the Minister does not handle any administrative transactions on behalf of the Ministry. Furthermore, it must be clear that no administration fee, or whatever form of levy, is charged by the Ministry of Lands, Agriculture and Rural Resettlement towards the processing of applications for land.

The public is hereby advised that the correct procedure for land allocation emanates from the recommendations of District Lands Committees. The recommendations are progressed to respective Provincial Lands Committees for endorsement. It is the offices of the Ministers of State for Provincial Affairs that finally forward the paperwork for final approval by the Minister of Lands, Agriculture and Rural Resettlement.

A clarion call is hereby made for responsible citizens to join hands in bringing the fraudsters to book before they continue to bring the name of the Air Chief Marshal and that of the Government into disrepute.

It would be appreciated if this Fraud Alert message is promptly conveyed to your members.

I thank you.



RJ Chitsiko
SECRETARY FOR LANDS, AGRICULTURE AND RURAL RESETTLEMENT

