



Ndeitunga passes the buck, again

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Police chief Inspector General Sebastian Ndeitunga told Namibian Sun that he “did not start the rumour,” referring to a probe into a senior City Police officer in respect of a rhino poaching incident. Ndeitunga, however, did not deny that the investigation was ongoing. It is the second time this week that he has washed his hands on issues in which his force is implicated. Earlier in the week, he denied any knowledge of the involvement of the police implicated in the case of the missing Khoi San in the former Caprivi, now Zambezi Region. Ndeitunga said: “I did not start the rumour,” and added that the rhino poaching case was being investigated and he could not speak on it. The latest matter stems from a demand by Superintendent Eliaser Iiyambo of the City Police who wants Ndeitunga to clear his name of any involvement in the rhino poaching. Namibian Sun has seen a letter



(<https://d3rp5jatom3eyn.cloudfront.net/asse>

dated September 23, 2015, sent to Ndeitunga through Iiyambo’s lawyer, giving the police chief until October 6 this year, to respond to Iiyambo’s demand. The City cop threatened to explore other options to clear his name if Ndeitunga did not respond by that date. However, on October 7, Ndeitunga said he had no knowledge of the letter or its contents. When contacted for comment, Iiyambo said he was not at liberty to talk about the other options that he will take. His lawyer, Thomas Andima of Van der Merwe-Greff Andima could not be reached by the time of going to press. Iiyambo, however, maintains that he wants his name cleared as it borders on his integrity and credibility as a law enforcement agent. “I am a genuine police officer and there is no way that I could be involved in such things,” Iiyambo told Namibian Sun. According to the letter, Iiyambo is rumoured to have been involved in rhino poaching which has so far seen the arrest of a Nampol police officer in the North. It all started when a Nampol investigating officer called Iiyambo in July this year to assist with information about another city cop who, according to the letter, was mistaken for the apprehended Nampol officer. It was after the arrest of this Nampol officer that the police’s Special Branch at Opuwo, as well as the Protected Resources Unit of Oshakati, started to “constantly question” how he knows Iiyambo. “It is therefore our client’s instructions that he has been disappointed and his rights have been infringed as well as his character has been defamed by him being connected to such rhino poaching,” the letter reads. Due to the interrogation, a rumour went around saying Iiyambo, besides being a senior cop, is involved in rhino poaching and even news reporters started to call the City Police office to inquire about the matter. The letter requested that if Iiyambo was to be investigated that the police should charge him with the crime. ELVIS MURARANGANDA