

Prophet appears on attempted bribery charge

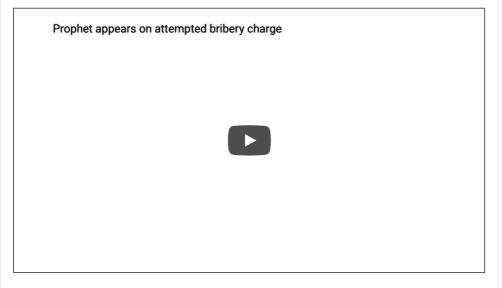
Eba Kandovazu

AN attempt by Prophet Jackson Babi to bribe the detective investigating poaching charges against him to bear false testimony in court during his formal bail application, has caused the man of God to sink deeper into legal trouble.

Besides an amount of N\$13 000 in cash police officers searching the cells during the past weekend also found two mobile phones in the possession of the accused persons while they were incarcerated at the Windhoek Police Station which added even more charges to the accused persons' charge sheets. The trail awaiting prisoners used the mobile phones to communicate with amongst others, the investigation officer, to offer him the bribe.

The Prophet and his co-accused, Ananias Ananias, appeared on two charges relating to the contravention of the Namibian Anti-corruption Act.

Charges of corruptly giving gratification as an inducement and conspiracy to commit offences were read out when the duo made a brief appearance this morning at the Windhoek Magistrate's Court.



CORRUPTING JUSTICE: Prophet Jackson Babi and his co-accused arrive at the Windhoek Magistrate's Court where charges of corruption were added to the growing charge sheet. – Footage: Eba Kandovazu

Prosecutor Rowan van Wyk said that all the statements have been taken and that the only evidence outstanding is video footage of the transgression.

A final postponement for 24 July 2020 of the matter has since been ordered by Magistrate Linus Samunzala after the State again objected to the granting of bail for the two accused persons.

The investigating officer requested the court for an order to transfer the accused persons from the holding cells at the Windhoek Police Station to the Windhoek Correctional Facility.

The request was, however, not granted after Prophet Babi's legal representative Kadhila Amoomo pointed out to the court that the Magistrate has no jurisdiction to make such an order. He stated that such a decision lies solely in the hands of the Station Commander.

Babi was arrested at his house in Windhoek earlier this month after he and his co-accused were found in possession of two rhino horns.







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