

AZ Allgemeine Zeitung

AKTUELL
MITTENDRIN
FÜR DICH

- [HOME PAGE](#)
- [JUSTICE](#)
- [AGAIN BAIL FOR LOMBAARD](#)



- **JUSTICE**

AGAIN BAIL FOR LOMBAARD

Johan Lombaard arrested a second time and released again
The Lombaard brothers are charged with several offenses related to illegal game transport. Johan Lombaard, who was recently released on bail, now has an outstanding arrest warrant for which he was granted bail again.
Ellanie Smit

- 19 HOURS AGO - 2023-09-18 00:05:00

By Ellanie Smit, Windhoek

Shortly after wildlife trafficker Johan Lombaard was released on bail earlier this week, he has a new arrest warrant in connection with an outstanding case from 2014 in Mariental. Johan Lombaard was therefore arrested a second time, but appeared in court in Mariental on Friday and was released on bail again.

The brothers Johan and Johannes Jacobus Lombaard and their co-defendant Rudie Kotze appeared before the Gobabis magistrate court on Wednesday on charges of illegally catching and transporting game worth N\$817,000. Judge Eliud Nakulonda released all three on bail of N\$50,000 each and adjourned the hearing in the case to February 6 at the Leonardville Magistrate's Court. The prosecutor in this case was Marchell Hoeb, while the three suspects were represented by local lawyer Bennie Venter and lawyer Louis Botes.

AZ's sister newspaper Namibian Sun reached out to Venter several times for comment, but his phone went unanswered. It is understood more arrests are expected in these cases.

The Lombaards are the founders of Golden Game, a wildlife breeding, trapping and export company in Mariental. They, along with Kotze, were arrested earlier this month in connection with the illegal capture and transport of 28 blue wildebeest and nine black wildebeest at the Reitz farm in the Leonardville area with the intent to sell the animals.

The three were charged with illegally transporting game or game meat under the Nature Conservation Ordinance and selling and purchasing game without a permit. They were also booked under the Prevention of Organized Crime Act for concealing the nature and description of the crime, illegitimate origin of property, assisting each other in obtaining the proceeds of unlawful activity and acquiring, possessing or using Proceeds from illegal activities charged.

Another charge under the Conservation Ordinance relates to illegally transporting game without a permit, while they were also charged for using a motor vehicle and an aircraft while hunting and catching game without a permit.

According to Environment Ministry spokesman Romeo Muyunda, Lombaard's latest arrest follows a similar case involving the capture and transport of game from 2014 and for which an

arrest warrant was issued.

The case comes from Mariental and concerns fines that he apparently did not pay to the ministry. Therefore, he will have to appear in Mariental on this matter. "We don't know when he will appear in court," Muyunda said.

About 10 months ago, the Namibian Sun reported that the ministry was investigating Johan Lombaard after he allegedly transported two white rhinos without the necessary documents. The Namibian Sun has learned that the investigation was launched after he was involved in a car accident while transporting a rhino and her calf. Two Land Cruisers with trailers were reportedly traveling with the animals when one of the drivers lost control of his vehicle and it overturned. None of the rhinos were injured. The case is still pending in court and has been adjourned to January 16, 2024.

In 2017, it was also reported that Lombaard did not have a permit to transport elephants captured from a farm in the Grootfontein area and that his farm had not been approved by the ministry to keep elephants.