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JOZI FM NEWS

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JOZI FM CONFIRMS CRIMINAL INVESTIGATION INTO ALLEGED MISUSE OF NLC FUNDS

Jozi FM Chief Executive Officer, Dr. Mpho Mhlongo, has confirmed that the community radio station previously received funding amounting to R24 million from the National Lotteries Commission (NLC).

Speaking during a press briefing at JoziFM Studios in Dube, Dr. Mhlongo explained that the funds were secured by the then board chairperson and were disbursed in two phases.

"We had initially received R12 million, which was deposited directly into our account," he said.

To strengthen accountability and transparency, Dr. Mhlongo said the board allegedly resolved to open a second bank account specifically for managing the NLC funds.

"The board and I, as the CEO, agreed that these funds should be moved into what we called the 'NLC account,' ensuring that they are accounted for and audited separately from our day-to-day operational account," he added.

Dr. Mhlongo emphasised that the move was intended to ensure proper financial oversight and compliance with governance standards related to the NLC funding.

Questions continue to mount over the whereabouts of funds allegedly disbursed more than a decade ago by the National Lottery Commission (NLC) to the Soweto Media Resource Centre (SMRC).

Dr. Mhlongo, said that the funds reportedly released in 2013 have yet to be properly accounted for.

"To date, we have no idea what happened to the funds. No one is coming to the party to say this is where we are," Mhlongo said during a press briefing.

He revealed that no Annual General Meeting (AGM) or elections have been held since, leaving the organisation unable to move forward.

"The problem is that we are stuck trying to establish what really happened. Why did we receive the funds, and why did they not do what they were supposed to do?" he asked.

Mhlongo said the board had initially presented what appeared to be an impressive development proposal.

"We were shown a beautiful plan of a new property that was to be built with those funds. To date, we haven't seen that. The last thing we saw was a 3D architectural plan on a laptop with all the frills nothing more," he added.

The station confirmed that the matter has been officially reported to the authorities and that a criminal investigation is currently underway.

"Without delving into the details of the ongoing investigation, Jozi FM confirms that the matter has been reported to the appropriate authorities," he said.-#JoziFmNews