

# ALL ABOUT BLACKLISTING

Having a bad Credit Record can have a devastating effect on your life. You can't buy the things you want, open a bank account or even get that job you have dreamed of. We are specialists at Credit bureau clearance and can help you.

Both individual people and companies can be black listed. To be blacklisted means that you have a bad credit record. This is probably because you have not paid a shop or other company to which you owed money or perhaps you did not pay them on time.

Being blacklisted can have a very bad effect on your life. If you are blacklisted you will probably find it very difficult to buy anything on credit or get any type of finance. It might even be difficult to open a bank account or get a job if you have a poor credit record. Even if you are able to get finance, it is likely that you will have to pay a higher interest rate or put down a large deposit. It is NEVER a good idea to be blacklisted and if you are, it is important to clear your name as soon as you can.

**When are you blacklisted?**  
You are blacklisted if:  
1. You fail to pay your accounts on time.  
2. You fail to pay your accounts at all.  
3. A civil court judgment is obtained against you for not paying your debt.

How to avoid getting your name listed:

- ✍ Pay all your debts before the 7th day of each month
- ✍ Notify all your creditors of change of address

✍ Attend to legal documents and letters immediately - **DO NOT IGNORE THESE - THEY WILL NOT GO AWAY!**

- ✍ Should you be unable to pay your debt, make suitable arrangements with your creditors and keep to your arrangements.

✍ Be careful of what you sign! Peruse documents first and should you require advice, kindly contact us for assistance

✍ Check if you are blacklisted : It is important for all South Africans to checking and knowing what goes on with your credit profile. Consumers are entitled to one free credit report a year according to the National Credit Act. If more than one is needed, a maximum of R20 may be charged. Black listed?

Check your name More than 25 million people are listed at one or more credit bureaus, you could be one of them. According to estimates, about 200 000 defaults are recorded on consumers' credit records monthly, but a lawyer claims that many of these listings are in fact illegal.

- 1. Credit profiles are stored by Credit Bureaus.

- 2. Credit Bureaus must give consumers access to their credit profiles.
- 3. The credit profile may be given to you in person or in writing.
- 4. A Credit Bureau may not give you the information over the telephone.
- 5. A Credit Bureau may charge a reasonable fee to allow consumers to inspect their credit profiles.

**How long will you be blacklisted at the credit bureau?**

Liquidations Indefinite  
Sequestration 10 years  
Rehabilitation orders 5 years  
Civil court judgments 5 years  
Defaults (failure to pay account on time) 3 years  
Administration orders:  
After lapsing or rescission 5 years  
If not lapsed or rescinded 10 years  
Account performance 3 years  
Can you remove a default listing before 3 years?  
The Credit Information Ombudsman (Ombud) is a department established to assist consumers with credit disputes. The Ombud will assist consumers who have defaulted in repayments due to circumstances beyond their control.

You will need to prove the following:  
You did not intentionally default on your repayments.

- 1. Did you default on your debt due to circumstances beyond your control?
- 2. If your default was caused because

you lost your job other income, you must supply the following information to the Ombud:

- 3. Proof of former employment (provide evidence such as a payslip or a letter).
- 4. When did you lose your job (provide dates)?
- 5. How did you lose your job (provide written evidence such as a letter)?
- 6. What has your employment situation been since the blacklisting (provide dates)?

You did not carelessly cause the default listing.

- 7. Before you were listed, did your payment behaviour show an intention to pay your debt?
- 8. Did you take the necessary steps to avoid the default listing? You have paid the debt in full.
- 9. Do you have letters from your credit grantors confirming that you have paid in full? (provide evidence of the letters)

**Can you remove a listing if you obtained a judgment before 5 years?**

You must follow this procedure:

- 1. You must first pay the full amount owing to the credit grantor.
- 2. Once you have paid the debt you must request a letter from the credit grantor confirming that the debt has been paid and that they do not object to the judgment being rescinded (cancelled).
- 3. You must then bring an

application to the Magistrate's Court where the judgment was obtained, for the rescission (cancellation) of judgment.

- 4. You must then take a copy of the court order to the Credit Bureau and they will remove your blacklisting.

**What must I do if my credit profile is incorrect?**

A consumer can lodge a complaint if they believe that a Credit Bureau holds information which is inaccurate, incorrect, obsolete, irrelevant, invalid or incomplete.

The process for lodging a complaint is as follows:

- 1. The consumer must contact the relevant Credit Bureau and lodge a complaint.
- 2. The Credit Bureau has a maximum of 30 days to resolve the complaint.
- 3. If the complaint is not resolved after 30 days, or if the consumer is not satisfied with the result, the complaint can be escalated to the office of the Credit Information Ombud.
- 4. The Ombud will then investigate the complaint and attempt to resolve the dispute through mediation.
- 5. If mediation fails, the Ombud will conduct a fact finding exercise and make a ruling after full consultation with all parties.
- 6. All Credit Bureaus and their subscribers shall abide by the recommendations and rulings of the Credit Information Ombud.

## HOD OF DEDET SLAMS THE TOURISTS ATTACK IN THE PROVINCE



Mpumalanga's Department of Economic Development, Environment and Tourism has openly come forward in the attack of criminals who were reported to be roaming the areas of Sabie. This follows the publication of allege robbery of the two German tourists while on their peaceful sleep last Wednesday. It has been reported that two were asleep when “three robbers broke into one of the chalets and fled with cameras, a laptop and the visitors' cash.

The Head of Department, Dr Vusanani Dlamini says this unfortunate and barbaric behaviour continues to tarnish Mpumalanga and South Africa's image of a tourist destination of choice, and

cannot continue unchallenged. “I call upon law enforcement agencies to deal very harsh with anyone caught involved in this criminal activity. The law must take its course and these cruel people should receive the harsh sentences” added Dr Dlamini.

In another incident, an attacker broke in to the house of General Manager of Umbhaba Lodge in Hayzview and held a family at gun point. He was allegedly tight up and managed to break loose and fight them and was shot in the process .The robbers then fled the scene.

"We are confident that the law enforcement agencies will work tirelessly to ensure that those who found guilty of terrorising the

business community around the province are brought to book of law. We cannot continue to allow tourism establishment been attacked on regular bases, There will be no mercy for criminals especially those who wants to hamper the progress that has been made by tourism industry in creating job opportunities around the province "said the Head of Department.

“People must be aware that tourism has been identified as one of the drivers of job creation in Mpumalanga's Economic Growth and Development Path, so if we tarnish our image, then we will continue to have challenges of job creation and fighting poverty”, concluded Dr Dlamini.

## Transnet to boost coal iron ore rail capacity



South African state-owned logistics group Transnet plans to increase its capacity to haul iron ore from mines to ports by 56 percent over the next seven years, its Chief Executive Brian Molefe has said.

Molefe also said Transnet, whose wagons carry 53 million tons of iron ore currently, would increase its capacity to move coal from mines to ports from 68 million tons to 97.5 million tons over the same period.

Transnet recently tripled its capital investment programme to 300 billion rand (\$38.09 billion) over seven years to expand infrastructure in Africa's biggest economy, where bottlenecks on Rail lines and at ports have slowed exports and economic growth.

Transnet moves commodities such as coal, iron ore and fuel.

## 72 tractors delivered to emerging farmers

Pretoria Cape Town - A total of 72 tractors have so far been delivered free to black farmers as part of the Minister of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries Tina Joemat-Pettersson's plan to donate 502 tractors to seven provinces.

The plan forms part of the department's mechanisation programme and follows on the successful delivery in June last year of 85 new tractors each to Mpumalanga and KwaZulu-Natal. Responding to a parliamentary question a member of the Opposition raised in the National Assembly recently, Joemat-Pettersson, provided a list of the number and type of tractors that each province had so far received.

Under the plan each of the seven provinces will receive 62 tractors valued at about R160 million - which include John Deere, YTO, Massey Ferguson and Landini models - with engine capacities of 42kW, 62kW and 90kW, respectively.

Each of the tractors cost between R236 000 and R522 000 each, depending on their size.

So far, Gauteng has received 36 tractors, while the Free State, the Western Cape and the North West have received 12 tractors each.

Tractors are still to be allocated in the Eastern Cape, Northern Cape and Limpopo. Joemat-Pettersson said the terms and conditions of the use of the tractors would be determined by the mechanisation policy applicable in each province.

In Mpumalanga and KwaZulu-Natal the tractors are owned by the state and managed by service providers that then make these, as well as tractor drivers, available to emerging farmers free of charge.

In Mpumalanga, the fleet of tractors is part of the Masibuyele Emasimini p rogramme, while in KwaZulu-Natal, the state owns and manages the tractors and employs and trains the tractor drivers. - BuaNews