

CONFIDENTIAL

MEDIA STATEMENT BY PROETHICS

PROETHICS' RESPONSE TO UNSUBSTANTIATED ALLEGATIONS

ProEthics has become aware of recent articles authored by journalist Raymond Joseph, in which he makes serious and unsubstantiated allegations regarding our work with the National Lotteries Commission (NLC). These claims are not supported by evidence, and the information he relies on may have been obtained through unethical or unlawful means. His statements are blatantly false and misleading and appear to be intended to intentionally damage the reputation of ProEthics.

For clarity, ProEthics engaged with the NLC as an independent contractor, delivering professional services in accordance with a formal service level agreement and a proper procurement process. Despite explaining our position to Mr Joseph and denying any involvement in wrongdoing, he and the publications he collaborates with have persisted in publishing false and misleading claims that misrepresent our role.

As a result, ProEthics has lodged two formal complaints with the Press Council of South Africa, as we believe Mr Joseph and the relevant publications' reporting contravenes the Press Code by, among others:

- Lacking context and balance;
- Vastly exaggerating or misrepresenting the facts of our involvement; and
- Purposely failing to distinguish between fact and opinion, instead presenting speculation and unverified information as fact.

This action is necessary not only to safeguard our reputation, but also to address the unsubstantiated allegations made against ProEthics. Furthermore, we are considering additional legal steps against Mr Joseph and the publications.

As the Founding Director of ProEthics, and having dedicated my career to promoting ethical governance and combatting fraud and corruption, I take these matters very seriously. For further information, please feel free to contact me at janette@proethics.co.za.

ProEthics remains steadfast in upholding the highest standards of integrity and thanks our loyal clients for their ongoing support.

Dr Janette Minnaar

26 March 2025

