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MEDIA RELEASE

COURT ORDERS FORFEITURE OF VEHICLES TO THE STATE

Failure to declare incidents over the past weeks, have led to the Gobabis Magistrates Court ordering the forfeiture of two vehicles used in contravention of the provisions of the Customs and Excise Act, 1998 (Act No. 20 of 1998) (Act).

In an earlier incident, an accused person drove through the Trans-Kalahari Border Post without adhering to the mandatory customs declaration requirements, as contained in section 14(1)(a) of the Act, which requires the full declaration of all goods on entry into Namibia.

Shortly after, a swift and resolute action was taken by members of the Namibian Police (NAMPOL), resulting in a pursuit that culminated in the apprehension of the driver in Gobabis.

In addition to the forfeiture of the vehicle (VW Golf 6), the Court also fined the accused N\$8,000.00 or two years imprisonment.

Last Friday, the same Court ordered the forfeiture of a Toyota Wish to the State, owing to the failure to declare of foreign obtained goods at entry by the driver, coupled with a N\$8,000.00 fine or two years imprisonment.

NamRA underscores that the forfeiture of the vehicles, as ordered by the Court, is a monumental step towards deterring customs and excise violations and aligns with the Agency's commitment to upholding customs and excise laws whilst promoting enhanced compliance. We therefore implore on all traders and travellers to make the requisite declarations and comply with the applicable customs requirements at all times. For more information on the two cases, see case no: GOB-CRM-3379/2023 and case no: CR14/08/2023.

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