

## **Zambia: Report Zimba to Police - Kalale**

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Nomusa Michelo  
Lusaka

ELECTORAL Commission of Zambia (ECZ) director Dan Kalale has called on NIPA residents to report MMD Lusaka Central parliamentary aspiring candidate Rose Zimba over allegations of distributing Chibuku.

Kalale said it was a crime for anyone to give people inducements in a campaign.

"This is an offence known as treating. For those people who she distributed to should report to the Zambia Police or even directly to the Anti-Corruption Commission (ACC)," he said. "This is an offence known as treating and there are penalties for this offence."

According to the Electoral Act Number 12 of 2006, Part VII number 81 on Corrupt and Illegal Practices and Elections offences on Treating: "Any person who corruptly by oneself or by any person either before, during or after an election, directly or indirectly, gives or provides or pays, wholly or in part, the expenses of, any food, drink, entertainment, lodging or provisions to, or for, any person for the purpose of corruptly influencing that person or any other person to give or refrain from giving that person's vote at an election shall be guilty of the offence of treating."

According to the Act, the penalty for this offence shall be liable to a fine and or imprisonment of not more than five years for a first offender.

According to the Part X additional powers of the Commission and miscellaneous provisions number 128 general penalty: "Except where otherwise expressly provided in this Act, any person who is convicted of an offence under this Act shall be liable upon conviction-

(a) for a first offence to a fine not exceeding twenty thousand penalty units or to a term of imprisonment not exceeding five years, or to both;

(b) for a second or subsequent offence to a fine not exceeding thirty thousand penalty units or to a term of imprisonment not exceeding seven years, or to both."

And Kalale also called on the electorate to be vigilant during the election campaign period and not get gifts from aspiring candidates.

"It is not only for the candidates to stay away from treating, but also the electorate should be vigilant and sensible and refuse these acts, Kalale said.

"They should also report such acts to the Zambia Police or even the ACC. If this is what took place, it is a straight-forward crime and the law should take its course."

On Thursday evening, Zimba had a late night meeting at NIPA government flats where her campaign managers were seen distributing opaque beer to some residents. When asked why she was meeting residents late at night, Zimba said she had come from another rally and was still having meetings with the people.