

PRESS NOTICE

Unauthorised Use of Architects' Credentials

The Professional Architects Council (the "Council") has taken cognizance of several instances whereby the names, credentials and/or electronic signatures of registered Professional Architects may have been used without their knowledge or consent in applications submitted through the online Building and Land Use Permit ("BLUP") platform submitted through the National Electronic Licensing System "NELS" Platform. The Council views this matter with serious concern. The unauthorised use of a Professional Architect's credentials may amount to the unlawful practice of architecture as defined in the Professional Architects Council Act 2011, misrepresentation, forgery, use of forged documents, electronic fraud, or other offences under the laws of the Republic of Mauritius

The public is reminded that, for building projects of more than 150 square metres, the relevant plans and drawings must be drawn up and signed electronically by a Professional Architect, subject to the applicable legal requirements. Members of the public, promoters, contractors and agents are therefore urged to ensure that any Professional Architect named in a BLUP application has in fact been properly appointed and has personally authorised the submission of the relevant plans, drawings and documents.

The Council is liaising with the concerned authorities to address any reported illegal practices.

The Council strongly urges members of the public to exercise utmost vigilance and to ensure that they engage only duly registered Professional Architects for the provision of architectural services. Any person found to have misused the credentials, name, signature or Professional status of a Registered Architect may be liable to prosecution and to the penalties provided by law.

Registrar

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