

# Complaint lodged by Presidency against Highveld Stereo

Pretoria – Despite 94.7 Highveld Stereo's pre-emptive strike by suspending the two DJ's concerned, the Legal Adviser to the President, Adv Mojanku Gumbi, has formally lodged a complaint with the Broadcasting Complaints Commission against Highveld Stereo over the broadcast on the radio station on 28 April 2004 relating to President Olusegun Obasanjo of Nigeria.

"On 28 April 2004, between 19:13 and 19:30, two of the presenters on the radio station discussed the presence of President Obasanjo in South Africa. In the course of the discussion, the two presenters, Revin John and Lloyd de Bruin, made remarks that are not only defamatory, but also totally unacceptable and insulting towards the person and office of President Obasanjo," reads the statement from the Office of The Presidency.

"Such remarks included comments to the effect that President Obasanjo brought many kilograms of cocaine into South Africa when he came to participate in the inauguration of our President and the tenth anniversary celebration of our democracy.

"President Obasanjo came to our country at the invitation and as a special guest of President Mbeki. Accordingly, President Mbeki carried the responsibility of ensuring that the Nigerian President would not be exposed to any form of abuse, physical or otherwise," the statement concludes.

A letter from Gumbi to the Broadcasting Complaints Commission formally lodged a complaint against the radio station arising out of the conduct of the two presenters.

Bizcommunity reported on Monday that Highveld had suspended John and De Bruin for one week without pay. The two presenters also issued a statement apologizing for their "off the cuff" comments.

## Editorial contact

The Presidency