



**VAAL UNIVERSITY
OF TECHNOLOGY**

Inspiring thought. Shaping talent.

FRAUD AND VERIFICATION SERVICES

Registrar Division

Vanderbijlpark Campus
Andries Potgieter Blvd
Vanderbijlpark, 1900, South Africa

Private Bag X021
Vanderbijlpark, 1911, South Africa
www.vut.ac.za

+27(0)16 950 9248

shireenv@vut.ac.za

18 September 2023

Dear VUT Community,

Vaal University of Technology Ethics & Fraud Hotline

Management is pleased to announce that Advance Call is appointed as an independent third-party company to host the *Vaal University of Technology Ethics & Fraud Hotline*.

The Association of Certified Fraud Examiners recently published a global study on occupation fraud and abuse. In the findings, 40% of occupation fraud cases within companies were detected by a tip-off, whereas only 15% were detected through audits. Employees contributed to more than 50% of the tip-offs and fraud losses were 50% smaller at organisations with ethics and fraud hotlines.

The Protected Disclosures Act (PDA) provides protection to whistleblowers who wish to disclose information regarding possible unlawful or irregular conduct by their employer or fellow employees. Under the PDA, whistleblowers have the right to remain anonymous when making a disclosure. Advance Call offers the possibility for the whistleblower to provide his / her contact information with the explicit understanding that it will not be shared with the recipient or anyone else. In such cases, Advance Call will be able to contact the whistleblower to obtain more information, if needed, thereby increasing the chances of a disclosure being successfully investigated and concluded.

Disclosures can be made on any incidents or behaviours that may possibly be considered unlawful or irregular. The disclosures received are categorised as follows:

- **Fraud** (forgery, falsification of documents/claims, identity theft, misrepresentation)
- **Corruption** (any form of bribery, third party collusion, contract and procurement irregularities)
- **Theft** (unlawful and intentional removal of company property with the intention to permanently deprive the company of the benefit thereof)
- **Misconduct** (harassment, any form of discrimination, intimidation, abuse/misuse of company property, time and attendance abuse, abuse of authority)
- **Unethical Behaviour** (favouritism, nepotism, conflicts of interest)

How to make a disclosure:

Disclosures can be reported to the *Vaal University of Technology Ethics & Fraud Hotline* 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year. The disclosure will be captured by Advance Call and will be reported to a recipient within Vaal University of Technology in order for the matter to be investigated. The whistleblower can at any time enquire about the status of a disclosure and possible further steps taken, as well as provide more information and/or evidence.

Toll-free telephone number: 0860 111 428

WhatsApp number: 0860 004 004

Secure email address: vut@behonest.co.za

Online and chat: www.behonest.co.za

SMS: 48691

Free Post: BNT165, Brooklyn Square, 0075



If you don't support it, **report it!**