

# Former Kagoma MP arrested over obtaining sh270m by false pretence

By Betty Amamukirori

Fredrick Mbagadhi Nkayi, the former MP for Kagoma County, Jinja district, has been arrested over obtaining sh271.5m by false pretence.

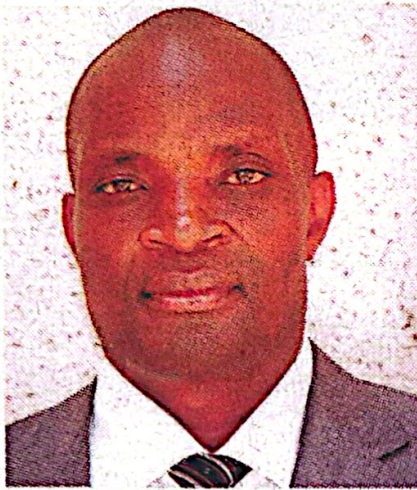
Vincent Sekate, the Police spokesperson for the Criminal Investigation Directorate (CID), yesterday confirmed the arrest.

Sekate said Nkayi was arrested yesterday morning following a complaint filed by Joseph Kabugo, 58, a resident of Lubatu-Kiteezi, Kasangati, Wakiso district. The accused is in detention at the CID headquarters, Kibuli, Kampala.

Kabugo accuses Nkayi of obtaining the money, saying he would establish a wealth creation project of citrus fruit, mangoes and coffee seedlings and a water project.

In a statement recorded at CID headquarters, Kabugo, who was slated to travel to the US for surgery, said his woes began in September 2015 when the legislator approached him for a loan of sh150m claiming he was mobilising funds for a water project in his county.

Nkayi was allegedly pursuing the projects to help give him leverage over his opponent during the parliamentary campaigns.



Mbagadhi

*Kabugo had to undergo surgery in the US, but gave the money (sh80) to Mbagadhi*

"This has not been the first time. Way back, he borrowed a lesser amount for his parliamentary campaigns and after emerging victorious, he refunded the money," he said. He explained that at that

time he had obtained a two-year visa to travel to the US for surgery, but instead gave the money (sh80) to the legislator. The latter grudgingly accepted the cash and tasked him with looking for the remaining balance as quickly as possible.

Kabugo said because of too much pressure from Nkayi, he staked his building in Kitagobwa, Wakiso district, where he was given sh70m by a person he only referred to as 'the man'.

In October, Nkayi allegedly asked for another sh80m to invest in a seedlings project, which were to be sold to the Government and, in February, he asked for another sh36m to finance the harvesting process.

Kabugo said on October 23, this year Nkayi again approached him for sh5.5m as payment for labourers' wages, with a promise that the Government was ready to buy the seedlings.

He said they met and worked out a payment plan, but the legislator became elusive when Kabugo called to demand that he be paid back.

Kabugo, who asked the Police to compel Nkayi to pay him, said he has lost the house, his visa expired and he has developed more complications.