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Claims could see Majali's estate sequestered

THE ESTATE of the late businessman Sandi Majali could be sequestered if his creditors and business partners bring claims to recover financial losses.

This is according to Johan Klopper, the managing director of Independent Corporate Recovery Advisors, which specialises in liquidation and curatorship cases.

"If there are any legal claims regarding liquidation, then obviously these may still be claims against his estate," said Klopper, who was a joint trustee of the estate of slain mining magnate Brett Kebble.

Majali was found dead in his Sandton hotel room on Sunday. He was understood to be ill, and police have seized medicines and food found in his room for testing.

Sapa reports that a memorial service for Majali is to be held in Bryanston tomorrow afternoon.

Majali was facing criminal charges of fraud over the alleged hijacking of a resources company and was believed to be experiencing financial difficulties.

He had voluntarily liquidated his Imvume Resources business, which was sued by PetroSA for recovery of R11 million that Majali diverted to the ANC shortly before the 2004 election, instead of using it as an upfront payment for oil supplies as intended.

He was also involved in a court battle with the Financial Services Board over his business dealings.

Klopper said if there were outstanding claims by Majali's business associates, these claims may still be pursued, despite his death.

"If the claims are much more than his assets, his estate may be sequestered," he said.

Mike Moloto, appointed to liquidate Imvume Resources, said they were definitely proceeding with the liquidation process.

"His death doesn't stop it. I have got to proceed with the liquidation because we have to recoup from whatever (financial) sources he had," Moloto said.

Yesterday, The Star reported that the woman understood to be Majali's girlfriend removed laptop computers and files from Majali's hotel room. Due to an editing error, it was reported that she removed these on Saturday night, before he was found dead on Sunday.

The report should have read that she removed the items on Sunday night, after his death.