Publication: Durban North News
Title: Restoring public trust in SAPS
AVE: 7325.64
Page: 11
Publish Date: 04 November 2026
Author: Reuben Maleka

Restoring public trust in SAPS

The Public Servants Association (PSA) welcomes the reinstatement of General Fannie Masemola as National Commissioner of the South African Police Service (SAPS).

His return follows the withdrawal of charges against him, a decision that reaffirms the fundamental principles of due process and the right to a fair trial. The PSA acknowledges the clarity provided by the National Prosecuting Authority's review, which concluded that there were no reasonable prospects of a successful prosecution. This outcome underscores the importance of ensuring that justice is pursued based on credible evidence rather than speculation or external pressures.

The PSA underscores that justice must never be compromised by political agendas or factional disputes in state institutions. The reinstatement of General Masemola comes at a pivotal moment for the SAPS, when public confidence in policing is severely strained. Across South Africa, communities continue to demand policing that is effective, accountable, and transparent anchored in safety and dedicated to service delivery.

The PSA calls on the government and the SAPS management to ensure that all leadership decisions are anchored in integrity, stability, and the broader public interest. Whilst the acquittal of General Masemola brings relief, it underscores the urgent need for robust oversight mechanisms to prevent similar controversies from arising in future.

The PSA further urges investigative and prosecutorial bodies to exercise diligence, fairness, and impartiality in all matters involving public officials. Only through consistent adherence to these principles can confidence in the justice system and policing institutions be strengthened. Accountability must remain the cornerstone of public service, with transparency guiding every decision that affects leadership.

The PSA believes that the return of General Masemola offers a crucial opportunity to reset the SAPS leadership and refocus on the core mission of policing, protecting communities, and upholding the rule of law. The PSA calls on the government, the SAPS management, and civil society to work collectively in rebuilding trust between the police and the public. Restoring confidence in policing is a matter of leadership and a national imperative that directly affects the safety and stability of South Africa. The PSA reaffirms the union's unwavering commitment to integrity, justice, and service delivery.

Reuben Maleka

Full Page Image

www.novusgroup.co.za | Tel: 011 568 3337 | clientservice@novusgroup.co.za | Copyright Novus Group (Pty) Ltd.