

MEDIA RELEASE **Charlotte Maxeke Academic Hospital fire: PSA urges compliance with health and safety regulations**

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The Public Servants Association (PSA) has called on the Gauteng Provincial Government (GPG) to ensure adherence to all health and safety regulations in its institutions in the wake of a fire that caused structural damage to the Charlotte Maxeke Academic Hospital in Johannesburg.

The PSA, representing more than 63 500 public-sector employees in Gauteng, previously raised safety concerns following an incident where part of the Hospitals roof collapsed. Allegations that fire hydrants in the 'Hospital were not working and had not been serviced are further extremely concerning.

The GPG should ensure that health and safety regulations are complied with consistently to safeguard the lives of employees, patients, and members of the public. The PSA has requested an urgent briefing with the Departmental Head of Infrastructure, Dr Goodhope Maseko, on the status of the Charlotte Maxeke Academic Hospital and plans moving forward. The PSA additionally cautions the GPG not gamble with the lives by resuming hospital business without a health and safety clearance certificate. The PSA will continue to push the employer to ensure compliance with occupational health and safety standards.

The PSA extends gratitude to all persons who assisted in the evacuation of the Hospital during the fire. Hospital employees demonstrated their commitment to the safety of patients and colleagues.

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