

MEDIA RELEASE Gauteng Department of Education: PSA intervention results in closure of unsafe

Registry by Labour Inspectorate

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The Public Servants Association (PSA), representing employees in the Gauteng Department of Education, is extremely concerned about hazardous working conditions at the Gauteng Department of Education (GDE) Registry in Ekurhuleni South District.

This situation has resulted in the Department of Employment and Labour (DEL) issuing a prohibition notice and subsequently closing the facility. During a recent inspection by the DEL and the PSA, it was found that the Registry environment was severely overcrowded, dirty, and unsafe, with controlled piles of files, creating a fire hazard and a risk to employees.

The PSA conducted an inspection and repeatedly raised these issues with the GDE, warning of deteriorating conditions that compromise the safety and dignity of employees. The PSA warned the GDE multiple times about the state of the Registry. The PSA was thus not satisfied with the GDE's conduct and called on the DEL to intervene. The PSA welcomes the intervention by the DEL, as it validates the Union's long-standing concerns. The prohibition order is a necessary and urgent step to ensure that employees are not forced to work under conditions that violate occupational health and safety regulations. The safety and well-being of employees are not negotiable.

The PSA will continue to monitor the situation and advocate for safe, dignified, and compliant working conditions for all public servants.

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