

MEDIA RELEASE **Limpopo Department of Education: PSA outraged by treatment of representative**

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The Public Servants Association (PSA), has called for an official apology from the Limpopo Department of Education after one of the Union's shop stewards was prevented from executing her duties at the marking of National Senior Certificate supplementary examinations at Piet Joubert Special School in Limpopo on 24 June 2019.

The PSA, as part of the CTU-ATU, is a party to Education Labour Relations Council (ELRC). In pursuance of the Union's resolute stance against corrupt activities, particularly in view of recent media reports of corrupt acts in the education sector, the PSA was stunned by the prevention of its shop steward to observe and ensure high ethical examination marking outcomes of the National Senior Certificate (NSC). The PSA was allocated observer status for the marking of NSC supplementary examinations at Piet Joubert Special School.

The PSA learnt with shock that its observer, when reporting at a marking centre, was told to immediately return the card that was issued to her, to de-register and leave the building. She was treated like a criminal and humiliated in front of colleagues. The PSA observer who is also a shop steward was told by the centre manager that the PSA is not accepted at the marking centre as it is not a teachers' union. It was established that the centre manager was acting on the instruction of acting Director for Examination.

The PSA has called upon the Limpopo Department of Education to investigate the incident to ensure accountability and consequence management. The Union pointed out that is not acceptable, in view of the PSA's long history of involvement in the sector, for employees at management level to demonstrate such ignorance in not recognising the PSA. The Department is also expected to officially apologize to the member and the PSA.

The PSA remains resolute to protect the rights and dignity of teachers, despite this conduct by the employer representative.

END

