

MEDIA RELEASE: PSA demands urgent measures to protect KZN Emergency Services workers

DATE: 28 June 2019

EMBARGO: None

ENQUIRIES: Claude Naiker
082 880 8950

The Public Servants Association (PSA) has called for an urgent meeting with the KwaZulu-Natal (KZN) Department of Health following two recent attacks on Emergency Services workers who were responding to calls to assist with people in dire need of medical attention.

The first incident occurred last week when Emergency Services workers were called to an emergency in KwaMashu and were ambushed. The call appeared to be a hoax. The second incident occurred yesterday when emergency workers, whilst loading a patient in Phoenix, were attacked.

The PSA will call on the Department to come up with a plan to ensure that the lives of the Union's members in the Ambulance services are protected at all costs. If the Department is unable to implement proper measures, the PSA will demand that its members pick up patients at the nearest police stations, especially in problem areas.

The employees must be able to perform their duties without fear and must be able to attend to calls in the knowledge that these calls are legitimate. The PSA will also consult its members on measures the Department must implement to protect their lives in the course of performing their duties.

END

