



MEDIA RELEASE	PSA calls for investigation into alleged irregular appointment in Limpopo Premier's Office
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EMBARGO	None
ENQUIRIES	communication@psa.co.za

The Public Servants Association (PSA) has learnt with dismay that the Limpopo Office of the Premier is entangled in the alleged irregular appointment of an employee, whilst the Office is expected to monitor compliance with human-resources prescripts in the province.

Recent findings by the Public Protector regarding irregular appointments at the Department of Social Development, wherein it was recommended that implicated officials be released from their contract of employment, set the precedent for steps to be followed in this regard.

The Office embarked on a recruitment process for a supervisory position, which is not a highly specialised position. A candidate was appointed who submitted a defective application for the job. These included, amongst others, a date of birth and identity number that did not correspond. Subsequently, the unsuccessful candidate declared a dispute after the grievance process did not assist in dealing with this matter. The matter could also not be resolved at conciliation owing to the employer's attitude of frustrating employees and abusing power to allow for irregular processes to be followed to the advantage of favoured employees.

Following arbitration proceedings, the Commissioner ruled in favour of the unsuccessful applicant. The PSA has, however, learnt that the Premier's Office, being the Office of the highest hierarchy in the province, is considering lodging a review application. It is diabolical for such an Office to defend this irregular appointment. The PSA is aware that irregular appointments seem to be the order of the day in Limpopo. There also seems to be no consequences for those who continue to flout recruitment processes and deliberately disregard policy provisions and human-resource prescripts.

The PSA's engagement with the Premier's Office could not yield positive results. The PSA therefore calls on the Premier of Limpopo to provide exemplary leadership by directing the Office to stop the review processes and reverse any irregular appointment. Defending the indefensible through the use of taxpayers' money to appoint attorneys to review the said award cannot be condoned.

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