

MEDIA RELEASE PSA calls for urgent action following intimidation of members at Seleka

Clinic in Limpopo

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The Public Servants Association (PSA) strongly condemns a recent incident of intimidation directed at the Union's members by a member of the community during a night shift at Seleka Clinic, in Polokwane in Limpopo.

This deeply troubling event placed the safety and emotional well-being of PSA members at serious risk, whilst also undermining the delivery of essential healthcare services. Following the incident, the affected employees sought assistance from the PSA, the South African Police Service, and the Clinic's management. The PSA urgently visited the Clinic to assess the situation and engage with relevant stakeholders. The PSA found that the security was able to assist, however, as there was one male and three females security officers, the male security was bitten by the same member of the public and was injured. PSA members have expressed fear and reluctance to continue working night shifts without immediate and effective security measures in place.

Despite the traumatic nature of the incident, no counselling or psychological support was offered to the affected employees, a failure the PSA finds unacceptable. The PSA calls on the MEC for Health to take decisive action, not only at Seleka Clinic, but across all healthcare institutions operating 24-hour services. Robust security protocols, trauma support systems, and proactive risk management must be implemented to protect frontline workers who serve communities under challenging conditions. It is the employer's legal and ethical responsibility to ensure a safe working environment, especially for those performing duties during vulnerable hours.

The PSA will continue to advocate for the safety, dignity, and mental well-being of the Union's members, and expects swift intervention from the Department of Health to restore trust and ensure accountability.

END

