

MEDIA RELEASE	PSA calls for urgent intervention by Department of Correctional Services following stabbing at St Albans Correctional Centre
DATE	20 October 2025
EMBARGO	None
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The Public Servants Association (PSA) calls for urgent action after one of the Union's members employed at the St Albans Medium B Correctional Centre in Gqeberha in the Eastern Cape was assaulted and stabbed with a sharp object by an inmate on 16 October 2025.

This incident brings the total number of assaults on employees in the St Albans Management Area alone to ten, of which seven were stabbings and three assaults. This number relates to incidents that occurred during 2025 alone.

In 2009, the Department of Correctional Services (DCS) introduced a seven-day establishment, which resulted in a staff complement that was already strained to be reduced to implement the various shifts. This severely negatively impacted the safety of PSA members and DCS employees in general. Since the implementation of the seven-day establishment, the DCS has done very little, if anything, to mitigate the daily safety risk faced by its employees.

The PSA visited the Centre and determined that the member has since been released from hospital and is recovering at home. The PSA urges all Correctional Officials to always perform their duties with vigilance and caution and to be alert of their surroundings, especially when in the vicinity of inmates.

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