

MEDIA RELEASE **PSA condemns alleged racism at Tswaing Sub-district in North-West Department of Health**

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The Public Servants Association (PSA) is dismayed about reported racism incidents at the North-West Department of Health's Tswaing Sub-district in Delareyville.

Officials from the Department have reportedly blatantly refused to attend to Black members of the community who arrived at the vaccination station while attending to White members of the community. This behaviour is unacceptable, especially during the current third wave of the pandemic that is posing a serious threat to the lives of community members.

The allegations that a senior manager in the Sub-district and other officials were withholding vaccines from Black communities should be investigated urgently and swift punitive measures taken against them to mitigate the leadership vacuum resulting from their precautionary suspension. The PSA, whilst welcoming the suspension of the officials, cautions the Department to prioritise the finalisation of the matter.

If allegations are found to be true, the Department should also consider laying criminal charges against the perpetrators related to racism and endangering the lives of vulnerable people.

END