



MEDIA RELEASE **PSA condemns Limpopo Department of Health for putting junior officials in firing line**

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The Public Servants Association (PSA) is shocked by a departmental memorandum issued on 27 September 2021 by the Limpopo Department of Health where originators of submissions are put in the firing line.

The memorandum requires the inclusion of a new clause, with immediate effect, where an originator of a submission is expected to take full responsibility and liability for any adverse findings including any costs incidental thereto, by any party auditing and/or investigating.

The problem with the memorandum is that it seems to exonerate members of senior management, who are the programme managers tasked with the approval responsibility, by placing the responsibility solely on the originator of the submission. It is a known secret that many lower-level employees, from the salary level 8, are tasked with the responsibility of generating submissions, leaving managers to only recommend up to the level of approval. In terms of the new memorandum, those in the chain of command do not bear accountability.

The PSA is aware that lower-level employees are generating submissions on direct instruction from management and subjecting them to liability for any adverse findings and incidental costs is not fair. The PSA will not allow this glaring abuse of power by the Department and the abdication of responsibility by those in charge. The PSA has addressed this matter with the authorities and calls for the Head of the Department to immediately withdraw this instruction.

END

