

**MEDIA RELEASE**      PSA condemns targeted attacks on Educators in Ekurhuleni, Gauteng

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**EMBARGO**                None

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The Public Servants Association (PSA) noted with concern and outrage the continued attacks on Educators in the Ekurhuleni region in Gauteng, resulting in the loss of life and serious injury to public servants dedicated to the education sector.

The PSA is disturbed by the reported killing of an Educator in Daveyton and the attempted murder of a school leader in Vosloorus. These incidents reflect a troubling pattern of targeted violence against Educators, particularly those in leadership positions in schools. Educators are both employees of the state and custodians of the South Africa's future. Attacks of this nature undermine the safety of schools, destabilise communities, and erode confidence in the government's ability to protect its workforce.

The PSA is particularly concerned that these attacks appear to be deliberate, with no indication of robbery in certain instances. This raises questions about the motives behind such acts and points to a broader security risk faced by Educators in the execution of their duties. The PSA further noted the growing trend of violence directed at school management, including principals and deputy principals. This trend cannot be ignored and requires urgent, coordinated intervention.

The PSA calls on the South African Police Service to prioritise these cases and ensure swift investigations. The Department of Basic Education must urgently assess and strengthen security measures at schools. The justice system must ensure that perpetrators are apprehended and prosecuted without delay. Government needs to develop a targeted safety strategy for Educators, particularly those in vulnerable areas. Failure to act decisively will continue to expose Educators to danger and send the message that public servants can be targeted with impunity.

The PSA extends condolences to the family of the deceased Educator and wishes the injured school leader a full and speedy recovery. The PSA reiterates that an attack on an Educator is an attack on the future of the Country. Immediate and decisive action is required to restore safety, dignity, and stability in the education sector.

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