

**MEDIA RELEASE**                      **PSA condemns unjust targeting of shop stewards and Union members at Dr Pixley Ka Isaka Seme Hospital by management in KwaZulu-Natal**

**DATE**                                      21 November 2023

**EMBARGO**                                None

**ENQUIRIES**                             communication@psa.co.za

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The Public Servants Association (PSA) stands united in solidarity with shop stewards and members of the Union who have been unjustly targeted by the management of Dr Pixley Ka Isaka Seme Hospital in KwaZulu-Natal through actions that go against the principles of justice and fairness.

The PSA will offer full support to the individuals and vows to ensure that their rights are protected and upheld. It is deeply troubling that in an institution where care and support is provided for the people of KwaZulu-Natal, such injustice and abuse of power are allowed to prevail. The CEO has been launching frivolous attacks against PSA members. Despite complying with procedures for taking time off, some members have been put on leave without pay. Additionally, the CEO has been blocking the PSA from servicing members at the Hospital. In addition, PSA members have continuously been wrongly charged with frivolous accusations.

As an organisation that protects the rights and promotes the interests of public servants, the PSA will not accept this as the standard of governance expected from public servants. This grave injustice demands accountability from those responsible, and the PSA calls for swift action to rectify the situation.

In collaboration with the legal representative team, the PSA is taking immediate action to address this matter. Formal complaints are being lodged with relevant authorities. The PSA will explore all avenues to ensure that those guilty of victimising the Union's shop stewards and members are fully held accountable.

The PSA urges the MEC of Health in KwaZulu-Natal as well as the Head of the Department to act swiftly and decisively in investigating these allegations of victimisation. Failure to do so will erode public trust and further damage the already fragile relationship between public servants and the communities they serve.

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