

**MEDIA RELEASE** PSA condemns victimisation of shop stewards and members at Kimberley Correctional Centre

**DATE** 15 November 2019

**EMBARGO** None

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The Public Servants Association (PSA) is appalled by the continued victimisation of Department of Correctional Services (DCS) officials at the Kimberley Correctional Centre.

In June 2018, PSA members reported irregularities at the Transport Section, regarding abuse of state vehicles and state fuel being stolen or used for personal gain, but no action was taken against the perpetrator. Instead, the official who lodged the report is victimised for being a responsible employee and citizen.

The PSA reported this matter as well as a host of others to the DCS Regional Commissioner but did not receive any acknowledgement. It is completely irresponsible of the authorities to turn a blind eye to these corrupt acts, which contribute to fruitless expenditure. It is discouraging that officials who are responsible and honest are victimised and extremely worrying that the employer fails to protect them.

The PSA calls on the Special Investigation Unit to investigate the Transport Section at the Kimberley Correctional Centre. The DCS Regional Commissioner and the Area Commissioner must be held accountable for the failure to deal decisively with possible fraud and corruption under their guard. The misused resources are public funded and persons in positions of authority must be held liable for such abuses.

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