

**MEDIA RELEASE**

**PSA demands completion of investigation into alleged improper conduct by SASSA Gauteng Regional Executive Manager**

**DATE**

5 March 2020

**EMBARGO**

None

**ENQUIRIES**

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The Public Servants Association of South Africa (PSA) is outraged by the South African Social Security Agency's (SASSA) failure to act against the Gauteng Regional Executive Manager, Themba Matlou, who is implicated in the misuse of state funds, abuse of power, and victimisation of staff.

The PSA, which represents the majority of SASSA employees, in November 2019 called on the Agency's Chief Executive Officer to investigate the allegations and take appropriate action. The matter was also brought to the attention of the Office of the Public Protector. This alleged conduct is an indication that officials have flouted policies and procedures and such conduct must be dealt with decisively as no officials, including executive managers, are above the law. The PSA is alarmed about the delay by SASSA to provide an outcome on the matter. This state of affairs, which impacted on the poorest of the poor, as well as the slow pace in finalising the investigation gives rise to serious concern.

The PSA calls for the intervention of the Minister of Social Development, Ms Lindiwe Zulu, to whom SASSA reports, to take urgent and decisive action in this overdue matter. In addition, SASSA should ensure that steps are taken against any manager who is guilty of misconduct relating to nepotism, abuse of power and mismanagement of funds as discipline in the workplace must be applied consistently.

END

