

MEDIA RELEASE	PSA demands urgent national intervention into systemic abuse, maladministration, and labour rights violations at Mpumalanga Department of Health
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The Public Servants Association (PSA) has formally lodged a complaint with the Minister of Health, detailing widespread abuse of power, maladministration, and gross violations of labour rights at the Mpumalanga Department of Health.

The PSA welcomes the acknowledgement of this submission by the Minister's office and expects urgent corrective action. Credible reports received by the PSA reveal unlawful removal, reassignment, and targeting of hospital Chief Executive Officers and senior managers in several provincial healthcare institutions. These actions, executed without due process or compliance with labour legislation, constitute a direct breach of the *Labour Relations Act* and undermine the constitutional principles of administrative justice.

The PSA is further alarmed by evidence of political and union interference in appointments and operations in the provincial health system. Such interference compromises institutional independence and integrity, whilst displacing competent managers into inactive positions. Many of these managers remain on full salary whilst being sidelined, resulting in wasteful and irregular expenditure in direct contravention of the *Public Finance Management Act*.

These unlawful practices extend beyond workplace violations and have severe implications for service delivery. The continued destabilisation of management structures directly impairs the functioning of hospitals and clinics, thereby denying the people of Mpumalanga their constitutional right to quality healthcare.

The PSA calls for immediate and decisive action, including an independent, high-level investigation into all reported irregularities. The PSA further demands the reversal of unlawful suspensions, removals, and reassignments. There should be a restoration of fair and impartial labour practices in the Department. Direct, national intervention is required to stabilise the provincial healthcare system.

The PSA has escalated this matter to the Public Protector, the South African Human Rights Commission, and the Public Service Commission for urgent intervention. The PSA will not remain passive whilst constitutional and labour rights are systematically eroded. The PSA is ready to pursue all legal and constitutional remedies to protect the Union's members, uphold labour rights, and safeguard the integrity of public service in South Africa.

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