

MEDIA RELEASE **PSA extends condolences to family of deceased SARS official**

DATE 22 May 2020

EMBARGO None

ENQUIRIES communicaiton@psa.co.za

The Public Servants Association (PSA), representing more than 6000 employees at the South African Revenue Service (SARS), has learned with sadness of the passing of an employee, who worked in KwaZulu-Natal, after testing positive for COVID-19.

The employee worked at the SARS institute of learning (SIOL) in Durban, he was a dedicated official who availed himself to render services during the lockdown period.

The PSA extends condolences to wishes his family, friends and colleagues. A life lost in the line of duty is always one too many, and employers are urged to take all possible precautionary measures to protect employees from becoming statistics of the COVID-19 pandemic. The PSA calls on the Commissioner, Mr Edward Kieswetter, to ensure that the lives of employees tasked to drive revenue collection and protecting our ports of entry are not placed at risk. The PSA further calls on the Commissioner to implement preventative measures that were tabled by the PSA to minimise the spread of the virus within SARS without any further delay. Measures such as the continuation and strengthening of remote work for employees, rotation of staff to ensure no more than thirty three (33) percent of officials are at the office, reduction on the reliance and movement of paperwork between officials and the continuation of the leave dispensation implemented during the lock down period.

END