

MEDIA RELEASE	PSA raises urgent occupational health and safety concerns at Department of Home Affairs Nyanga office
DATE	7 July 2025
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The Public Servants Association (PSA) is extremely concerned about deteriorating conditions at the Department of Home Affairs (DHA) Nyanga Office in the Western Cape, following recent heavy rains.

The PSA has received alarming reports from the Union's members regarding severe flooding, water pouring from ceilings, wet and slippery floors, and significant electrical hazards, including a flooded server room. Despite these dangerous conditions, the DHA has not issued any formal communication or instruction to employees regarding their safety or that of the public. No directive has been given to close the office or to redirect operations to safer facilities. This lack of action demonstrates a disturbing disregard for the health and safety of employees and members of the public.

The PSA reminds the DHA of its legal obligation to provide employees with a safe working environment and its vicarious liability for any harm caused to the public owing to unsafe conditions. The expectation that employees continue working under such high-risk circumstances is unacceptable.

The PSA will reserve the right to advise the Union's members to withdraw their labour from workplaces where their safety and that of members of the public is compromised. The PSA urges the DHA to act urgently and responsibly to safeguard the well-being of all affected.

A safe and healthy work environment is a fundamental Constitutional right, and it is the responsibility of the DHA to ensure robust, maintained safety measures. The PSA has called on the DHA address this matter with urgency, ensuring that all necessary precautions are implemented to protect employees and members of the public.

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