

<b>MEDIA RELEASE</b>	PSA rejects defamatory claims by rival union on PSA's standing as representative workers' Union
<b>DATE</b>	1 June 2026
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The Public Servants Association (PSA) rejects misleading political messaging circulated in Limpopo targeting PSA structures and public-sector workers.

These claims seek to distort the democratic right of workers to choose their representatives freely and without intimidation. The PSA operates within the framework of the *Constitution of the Republic of South Africa*, the *Labour Relations Act*, and binding collective agreements. These instruments protect workers from coercion and regulate fair workplace organisation. Any attempt to undermine these protections through unsubstantiated allegations is a setback to democratic labour relations. Union membership is not a tool of coercion. It is a conscious decision by workers exercising their freedom of association. No worker is compelled into any organisational structure. Each member joins through voluntary engagement supported by formal processes governed by law and workplace regulation. Administrative officials in the public service perform defined functions in the payroll and human-resource system. Their role is not political recruitment. Their responsibility is implementation of lawful deductions following valid authorisation. To misrepresent this function as manipulation introduces confusion into systems designed to protect order, transparency, and worker rights.

The PSA rejects any attempt to weaponise administrative processes for factional contestation in the labour movement. Such conduct weakens collective struggle and distracts from the material conditions facing public servants, including service-delivery pressures, workplace capacity challenges, and resource constraints. The language used in the circulated material reflects a departure from principled labour engagement. It replaces evidence-based dispute resolution with insinuation and emotional provocation. This approach does not strengthen the working class. It fragments unity at a time when coordinated action is required to advance worker interests. Trade-union practice is grounded in organisation, discipline, accountability, and service to members. It is measured by the ability to defend wages, protect conditions of employment, and secure dignity in the workplace through structured bargaining processes.

The PSA is committed to strengthening worker organisation through lawful and ethical means. Workers retain full freedom to evaluate unions based on performance, representation, and consistency in advancing their interests. No external pressure can substitute the independent judgement of organised labour. The PSA calls for responsible conduct across all formations in the labour movement. Disputes must be addressed through formal mechanisms, not public misrepresentation. Where concerns exist, these must be tested through evidence and proper institutional channels. The PSA will continue to defend democratic rights in the workplace, uphold orderly labour relations, and protect the integrity of public administration against politicised distortion.

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