



MEDIA RELEASE	PSA welcomes conviction of individual that brutally attacked a Paramedic in Pretoria
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The Public Servants Association (PSA) representing thousands of paramedics throughout the country welcomes the conviction of an individual that attacked an Emergency Medical Services (EMS) personnel. It has been reported that one of the attackers was sentenced to 15 years imprisonment. The robbery occurred whilst the employee was on duty. The PSA welcomes the sentencing of this individual and urges authorities to ensure the safety for both private and public emergency medical services.

Paramedics have fallen victim to armed robbery attacks and many of them are still receiving counselling for their trauma. Most of the attacks occur when paramedics are out saving lives. Sometimes, emergencies are called in by criminals with the intention to rob paramedics of their belongings and health equipment. The PSA has previously handed over numerous memorandums to the government demanding the protection and safety of the public and private health sector emergency medical services personnel who have found themselves being the victims of armed robberies while in the line of duty. As a result of these violent attacks some people who needed emergency assistance from paramedics lost their lives.

The emergency medical services must be allowed to carry out their lifesaving duty without any fear of criminals. The PSA urges anyone who sees the lives of paramedics being threatened to immediately report any matter to the police. The PSA further calls on the health sector to do everything in its power to protect paramedics whilst they perform their duties.

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