

**MEDIA RELEASE**                      **PSA welcomes Mpumalanga Premier's suspension of Head of Department of Human Settlements**

**DATE**                                      10 September 2020

**EMBARGO**                                None

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The Public Servants Association (PSA) welcomes the decision by Mpumalanga Premier, Mrs Refilwe Mtshweni-Tsipane, to place the Head of the Department of Human Settlements, Mr Kebone Masange, on special leave.

This decision comes after Mr Masange who was also acting as the Head of the Department of Public Works, Roads and Transport in the province, was arrested in Pretoria on 2 September 2020, based on allegations that he has contravened South African immigration laws. The PSA supports the decision by the Premier to give Mr Masange the space to deal with the serious allegations that he is facing.

The PSA is concerned by the allegations of contraventions of the law by Mr Masange and by the apparent failure of the Provincial Administration to ensure that vetting procedures are adhered to when making appointments in key positions.

The PSA urges public servants to report any contraventions of legislation and prescripts in the Mpumalanga Provincial Administration to the PSA. The Public Service needs to be cleaned of corruption for it to survive and redeem its integrity as an employer and to continue service delivery to citizens.

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