

MEDIA RELEASE: SA Revenue Service: Strike by employees legal and will continue

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EMBARGO: None

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The Public Servants Association (PSA) as the Union representing the majority of SA Revenue Service (SARS) employees, has questioned the need by the SARS to approach the courts for an interdict dealing with compliance with picketing rules.

The PSA embarked on a legal strike on 28 March 2019 in support of its members' salary demands. Parties agreed on picketing rules during the facilitation process by the Commission for Conciliation, Mediation and Arbitration (CCMA).

"On Friday, 22 March 2019, the PSA advised SARS that the Union has every intention to abide by the picketing rules issued by the CCMA Commissioner. SARS, however, brought an urgent application to seek a court order to ensure compliance with the picketing rules. The PSA maintains that it has every intention of complying with these rules. In instances where picketing has taken place in areas other than those agreed to, the PSA will take the necessary steps to ensure compliance with picketing rules. Under these circumstances, the PSA fails to understand the need for SARS to have spent tax payers' money to approach the courts as all demonstrations proceeded peacefully," said PSA General Manager, Ivan Fredericks.

The PSA further pointed out that claims by SARS to have successfully interdicted the strike is factually incorrect as the interdict only deals with compliance with picketing rules. "Strike action will thus continue and is not affected by the interdict," said Mr Fredericks.

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