

MEDIA RELEASE	Redemption Day for Ramaphosa: The PSA calls for immediate removal of the Minister of Police and overall cabinet reshuffle
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The Public Servants Association (PSA), like millions of South Africans, is waiting with keen interest for this evening's President's address about the corrupt activities within the South African Police Service (SAPS).

The PSA calls for the immediate removal of the Minister of Police, as the nation has lost confidence in the Minister's ability to effectively lead and ensure the safety and security of the nation. This call is based on a series of failures that have compromised public trust and endangered lives, not forgetting the White River 95 Libyan illegal military training camp, which, to date, the nation remains uninformed by the Police. The recent revelations by the KZN Police Commissioner and his poor attempt to respond by spinning more lies are pathetic, to say the least. The allegations are so serious and the call for immediate and decisive action, although the PSA believes in the principle of innocent until proven guilty, the *prima facie* evidence provides that the Minister is unfit to hold the position.

The PSA is calling not only for the removal of the Minister but also for a thorough investigation into the allegations raised by the Provincial Commissioner, to ensure that those found to be on the wrong side of the law face the full wrath of the law. The PSA further caution the President not to yield under the pressure of the illogical call by some members of the society to suspend General Mkhwanazi. Such a move will be a travesty of justice and disregard of the *Whistleblowers Act*, which will set a bad precedent which will not only discourage whistleblowers from coming forward but will create fertile ground for corruption.

The President must redeem himself today to demonstrate that he has the country's and its citizens' interests at heart and would not allow the critical Police department to be under the leadership of a man whose credibility and integrity are questionable. South Africa has not forgotten the tragic murder of Babita Deokoran for exposing the R1 billion-rand corruption at Tembisa Hospital, the hospital that is a shadow of its former self, although the government did not do much, as those behind this massive looting are still walking on the streets.

The President has the opportunity today to redeem himself and show the country that, like everyone, he is tired of corruption, criminality and lawlessness and cannot allow such to perpetuate on his watch. Anything other than firing the Minister of Police would be dismal and would send the message to the country that the President is incapable of leading this country. It must be noted that any attempt to intimidate or harm General Mkhwanazi will be met with fierce resistance from the PSA. The PSA stands firm in its commitment to uphold justice and integrity within law enforcement agencies. The PSA demands immediate action to restore public confidence and ensure the safety of all citizens.

If the President is serious about rooting out corruption and poor performance, he must seriously consider reshuffling his cabinet and removing all those Ministers who have been allegedly involved in corruption and those

incapable of leading their portfolios as Ministers. It is time for the President to act decisively on behalf of the citizens' interests and rights and put political expedience last.

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