

PSA calls for decisive action against corrupt officials

Recent revelations at the Zondo Commission into State Capture raise concerns regarding the management of finances in the DCS.

Billions in tenders were awarded to BOSASA to provide catering, which was previously undertaken by the DCS, as well as security systems (Krugersdorp: R80 972 333.26; Modderbee: R159 351 592.34; St Albans: R203 556 388.34; Pollsmoor R250 393 177.70; Kgosi Mampuru: R255 801 315.88; Johannesburg Central: R282 274 474.83; and Westville: R315 087 785.81).

The alleged payments of bribes to senior DCS officials for awarding lucrative tenders and the lack of action taken following the Special Investigating Unit's forensic report exposing BOSASA's corrupt dealings with DCS officials, begs the question of whether DCS funds were "re-distributed" to foot bills in support of personal financial gains, and thus impacting on the hiring of staff and overtime payments.

The PSA represents some 13 000 DCS employees and has seen first-hand the impact and ripple-effect of corruption on the state of prisons in the country. The PSA, whilst welcoming the action taken by the Police, still demands that the DCS should also take decisive action against implicated officials by following disciplinary processes as outlined in the DCS disciplinary code and procedure.

The PSA also demands that all tainted contracts given irregularly to BOSASA be terminated with immediate effect. Whilst the PSA is considering its options to ensure that the DCS acts swiftly in this regard, the PSA advises its members to not participate in illegal activities such as an unprotected strike as contemplated in section 65 of the *Labour Relations Act* which states that "No person may take part in a strike or a lock out or in any conduct in contemplation of furtherance of a strike or a lock out if (d) that person is engaged in an essential service".

The PSA will circulate a petition for signature of all PSA members in the DCS. This petition will be delivered to the Minister of Justice and Constitutional Development to emphasize the PSA disgust with the lack of urgency by the DCS in dealing with the alleged misconduct of the implicated officials.

Members will be informed of developments.

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GENERAL MANAGER