

INFORMUS



FOR PSA MEMBERS: GAUTENG DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH EMS (MIDRAND)

07-05-2020

PSA demands temporary closure of EMS Midrand Office: 8 employees tested positive for COVID-19

The *Occupational Health and Safety Act* requires that the employer provide and maintain a conducive work environment, which is safe and risk free to the health of the employee. The employer must ensure that the workplace is free of hazardous conditions and substances which can cause injury or disease.

The PSA has learned that at the EMS Midrand Station, eight employees tested positive for COVID-19. Unfortunately, the station management did not temporary close the office to allow for full decontamination; employees were not sent home to self-isolate even when the results became available, they were still instructed to report for work. It was also brought to attention of the PSA, that members who have underlying chronic conditions were forced to report for work and by doing so the EMS Management is busy contravening COVID-19 Regulations.

The PSA contacted EMS management and was referred to different officials without anybody accepting responsibility for the situation. The PSA will continue to monitor the workplace to ensure the safety of its members. Members are encouraged to remain cautious and report any non-compliance of OHS.

Members will be kept informed of further developments.

GENERAL MANAGER