

FOR PSA MEMBERS: MPUMALANGA DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE AND
CONSTITUTIONAL DEVELOPMENT

29-06-2020

Concerns by members at various Courts in Mpumalanga Province

The PSA has been inundated with calls from members within the Department of Justice and Constitutional Development, stationed at various courts in the Mpumalanga Province. Members concerns vary from overcrowding in courts, lack of water at courts such as Breyten and Ermelo, to the deviation by the Region from the National Department's directives regarding staff rotation and staggered return of employees to work.

The Mpumalanga Regional Office of the Department of Justice and Constitutional Development issued a Circular (*Circular 1 /2020* dated 05/06/2020) under COVID-19 Level 3, which called upon courts to be fully operational, with 100% staff complement and effectively cancelling the rotational system, that was in operation under COVID-19 Levels 5-and-4. This has resulted in overcrowding in some offices, making it almost impossible for staff to practice social distancing. We have in the past week, also seen a scare of COVID-19 infections in courts such as Kwamhlanga, Middelburg, Secunda, and Evander after some officials came into contact with members of the public who have confirmed to having tested positive for COVID-19.

The PSA has written to the Regional Head on 26/06/202, addressing these concerns, and requesting that there be formal engagements in this regard. The PSA can confirm that we have received a positive response with an undertaking that these concerns will be looked into and that a formal meeting will be arranged between the PSA Representatives and the Department of Justice and Constitutional Development, to address these and other related issues. Members will be updated on development following these engagements.

Members are further encouraged to report non-compliance of the Regulations in the department to the PSA Provincial Office.

GENERAL MANAGER