

FOR PSA MEMBERS: **DEPARTMENT OF MILITARY VETERANS (DMV)**

09-03-2023

## PSA working tirelessly for members at DMV

Members will remember that the PSA has been fighting for the last two years for accountability, justice, and proper governance as it was clear that the Department is not moving in the right direction. There was even a threat to silence shop stewards who were hard at work ensuring that the rights and interests of members are protected and promoted. The PSA efforts have yielded the following results:

### Senior Managers' extended suspension upliftment

The unfair suspension of almost two years without conclusion of the disciplinary process for four senior managers was uplifted after much struggle by the PSA. The PSA finally resorted to writing a letter to the Minister of Defence and Military Veterans on 21 February 2023, demanding urgent upliftment of the suspensions. Although there was no acknowledgement of the letter, the Minister called a meeting with all employees on 8 March 2023, where she announced the upliftment of suspension of these four SMS employees who are PSA members. Four other Senior Managers who were suspended at the beginning of March 2023, had their suspensions uplifted by the Minister as they were also suspended based on false allegations.

### Precautionary suspension: Accounting Officer

As a result of the dysfunctional Department and non-implementation of the Auditor-General investigation report recommendations, the Minister announced that the Director-General (DG) of the DMV would be placed on precautionary suspension by the Ministry, pending investigation that may lead to disciplinary action. The acting DG is to be announced shortly.

### Auditor-General of South Africa (AGSA) report: Irregular appointments and implementation

The Minister also commented that the recommendations of the AGSA report into irregular appointments would be implemented with immediate effect and may result in some appointments being set aside. The PSA is aware that some officials were allegedly appointed without meeting post requirements, which was also flagged by the Auditor-General report. The same issues were raised by the PSA on numerous occasions without any action by the Department. The PSA will stop at nothing to ensure justice and will not remain silent when members are subjected to undue hardship and draconian rules by uncaring managers who abuse their powers.

The DMV's mandate to manage and disburse the benefits of all military veterans was not executed adequately owing to poor leadership. The PSA, as a social partner and the sole Union at the DMV, is committed to root out and expose corruption in the Department to ensure that it delivers on its mandate.

Members will be informed of developments.

Employees who want to join the PSA can visit the PSA's website ([www.psa.co.za](http://www.psa.co.za)), send an email to [ask@psa.co.za](mailto:ask@psa.co.za), or contact PSA Provincial Offices.

GENERAL MANAGER