



FOR PSA MEMBERS: **MPUMALANGA**

30-10-2025

Victory for PSA member

Department of Education

The PSA has secured a significant victory in defense of a members at the Department of Education. The member was charged with prejudicing the efficiency of the Department after an alleged loss of R57 000 resulting from the unlawful issuing of assets to unknown people posing as suppliers. Upon consulting with the member and preparing for the case, the PSA established that the member had not acted on his own accord. The evidence revealed that he had executed a direct instruction from his senior supervisor who authorised the release of the assets. The member, who occupies a junior position at a low salary level, acted in good faith and in accordance with the instructions given.

The PSA cautions that supervisors and managers bear a greater responsibility to ensure that their directives are lawful, reasonable, and properly verified before being executed by subordinates and further cautions against abuse of power. The PSA successfully argued that accountability in this matter rested with the senior supervisor who issued the instruction and not the member who simply followed it. As a result, the member was cleared and acquitted of wrongdoing, reaffirming the PSA's ongoing commitment to ensuring that employees, especially those at lower levels, are treated fairly and are not unfairly scapegoated for management failures. This case highlights the PSA's dedication to protecting members from unjust disciplinary action and promoting fairness and accountability in the Public Service.

To join the PSA, contact Sylvia Watkins on 082 880 8941 / sylvia.watkins@psa.co.za or Thandiwe Mziyako on 060 284 9319 / thandiwe.mathabela@psa.co.za. The PSA Provincial Office can be contacted on (013) 741 7500.

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