

PSA LINK

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PSA SHOP STEWARD NEWSLETTER

What it means to be a Shop Steward...

Leader

- i** Shop stewards offer leadership in their workplace and therefore you should be able to -
- Listen to the members objectively, their grievances and opinions.
 - Give members honest and informed guidance and direction. You must also be in control of members' issues, but do not control members
 - Work as a collective (with your structures) – no shop steward can do everything alone.

Organiser

- ii** As a shop steward, you are an organiser in the workplace. You have to build up and maintain a strong discipline and a progressive and informed membership at the workplace.

Representative

- iii** A shop steward should be able to represent members in disciplinary hearings and grievances. Shop stewards should also represent the concerns of members in union structures and not pursue own issues or agenda.

Monitor

Shop stewards are the eyes and ears in the workplace and the link between the members and the union. Members will come to you when there is concerns, but you must also be able to pick up issues amongst members before they can even raise them.

Learner

A shop steward must be knowledgeable and well informed about the structures, union statutes and policies in their respective Departments.

Educator

A good shop steward passes on information and knowledge to members and shares with fellow shop stewards. You must be able to inform them about what is happening in the workplace including the rights and interests matters that are being pursued by the union in the various bargaining forums.

Shop stewards must understand their role in the union and in the workplace after election by members. The recognition agreement for each workplace will also be a guide to your rights as a shop steward.

Remember:

PSA Provincial Offices are always at hand to offer advice and support



The PSA cares