

MEDIA RELEASE

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For immediate release

PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION VISIT TO THE LIFE ESIDIMENI ARBITRATION

Today the Chairperson of the Public Service Commission, together with Senior Managers of the Office of the Public Service Commission took time to visit the Life Esidimeni Arbitration. We were briefed by former Deputy Justice Dikgang Moseneke on the mandate of the arbitration as a three pronged process, namely:

- Finding out what really happened
- Providing a platform for the grieving families of the deceased
- To determine just and equitable redress and compensation

The Public Service Commission has been monitoring the gory details that has been coming out of these unfortunate events. We visited today when the families were sharing their own experiences, which were very disheartening.

Obviously, we will leave the finding and recommendations in the capable hands of Justice Dikgang Moseneke. However, we must express our extreme distress from what we have heard from the media and the families during our visit. In our view it would appear that our public health workers did not show any care and compassion for the deceased and their families and did not adhere to the service standards applicable to the health sector. They therefore did not live up to the values and principles of public administration, including Ubuntu and putting people first. Although we understand that they work under stressful and difficult circumstances, with extreme financial constraints, we expected more of them. This was most certainly not their finest hour.

The Public Service Commission will await with keen interest the report on the outcome of the arbitration process. Where these fall within the mandate of the Public Service Commission, we will ensure that the recommendations are implemented fully by all concerned.

RK SIZANI CHAIRPERSON



From left: Mr Matome Malatji, Ms Irene Mathenjwa, Justice Dikgang Moseneke, Adv Richard Sizani, Chairperson of the Public Service Commission, Ms Fienie Viviers, and Mr Musa Ngema

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