

MEDIA RELEASE **PSA applauds permanent absorption of Correctional Services learners**

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EMBARGO None

ENQUIRIES communication@psa.co.za

The Public Servants Association (PSA) welcomes the decision by the Department of Correctional Services (DCS) to absorb learners who were part of the DCS learnership programme permanently into the Department's structure with effect from 1 June 2021.

The PSA, representing more than 13 000 DCS, believes that this absorption is a step in the right direction to assist with a relatively safer working environment in Correctional Centres as the DCS is hugely understaffed in critical areas.

These learners underwent training on skills that are needed in Correctional Centres. Failure to absorb them and benefit from the skills they acquired would have meant that the DCS spent considerable resources on training with no return on investment.

The PSA is, however, disappointed that the DCS has not yet approved the absorption of learners whose contracts were terminated in December 2020. The PSA calls on the Ministers of Justice and Correctional Services and the National Commissioner of Correctional Services to ensure that these learners are also absorbed without delay.

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