



**MEDIA RELEASE**                      **PSA applauds whistleblowers as DIRCO recalls Dubai Consul-General regarding misconduct and security breach allegations**

**DATE**                                      30 August 2024

**EMBARGO**                                None

**ENQUIRIES**                             communication@psa.co.za

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The Public Servants Association (PSA) welcomes the decisive action taken by the Department of International Relations and Cooperation (DIRCO) to recall Consul-General in Dubai, Mr Andrew Lebona, amidst serious allegations of misconduct and security breaches.

According to whistleblower reports, Mr Lebona is allegedly involved in a visa scam at the South African Consulate-General in Dubai. Allegations include facilitating unauthorised entries into South Africa for UAE citizens through orchestrated break-ins at his office and arranging illicit diplomatic travel authority for his son.

The PSA is deeply concerned about recurring incidents involving South African diplomatic personnel abroad, which tarnish the country's reputation and pose significant risks to national security. Swift and thorough investigations are essential. Should these allegations be substantiated, decisive legal action must be taken against all parties involved.

In various engagements with DIRCO, the PSA has consistently advocated for the deployment of competent and ethical personnel to embassies and emphasizing the importance of accountability for senior management in cases of misconduct. The PSA commends the whistleblowers for their courage in exposing these alleged transgressions that jeopardise South Africa's safety and reputation.

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