

MEDIA RELEASE **PSA comments: Suspension of SAPS National Commissioner**

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EMBARGO None

ENQUIRIES communication@psa.co.za

The Public Servants Association (PSA), representing a significant number of uniformed and civilian personnel at the South African Police Service (SAPS), has noted President Cyril Ramaphosa's decision to issue a Notice of Suspension to the SAPS National Commissioner in terms of section 8(3) of the *South African Police Act 68 of 1995*.

The PSA, whilst respecting the decision taken by the President as well as the rights of the National Commissioner, expect that fair processes were followed in reaching this conclusion. This will avoid wasting resources for a process to be declared null and void at an advanced stage. The PSA further hopes that the Office of the Presidency and the SAPS Ministry will ensure that operations in the SAPS continue without disruptions whilst the matter is being resolved. Furthermore, a knowledgeable and efficient acting Commissioner must be appointed in the interim.

The PSA urges the SAPS and the Presidency to resolve the alleged malpractices to ensure that service is not compromised whilst also motivating staff to improve their crime combatting commitment to the country. The PSA is extremely concerned about allegations that the National Commissioner was probed regarding an aborted attempt by the SAPS to splurge a staggering R45 million on procuring a “grabber” spying device during the elective conference at Nasrec. IPID investigators alleged that the purchase was merely a disguise to launder funds to buy-off voting delegates and swing the outcome in favour of their candidate. If these allegations are found to be true, it will demonstrate that there is no real desire by government to uphold good corporate governance, ethical conduct and root out mismanagement.

The PSA calls on the Presidency to not condone any illicit acts in the SAPS Ministry as the country is in urgent need of police that is capable to serve and protect the vulnerable society currently under a serious crime siege.

END