



MEDIA RELEASE PSA condemns alleged nepotism in recruitment policies in North West government departments

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The Public Servants Association (PSA) is concerned about North West provincial government departments' implementation of the recruitment and selection policy.

The PSA affirms the principle of fairness and establishing consistency by departments when recruiting new employees. It has come to the PSA's attention that certain departments are hiring relatives of employees for advertised positions.

The Department of Human Settlements, for example, reportedly hired three employees with family relations to a senior manager of the Department. A whistle-blower forwarded these allegations to the Department, which then filled in an affidavit detailing the senior manager's family relationship with the appointed employees. The Department has failed to deny the allegations or to do a probe on the veracity of the allegations. The senior manager in question enjoys the protection of the departmental hierarchy, leaving whistle-blowers exposed to intimidation and victimisation. These allegations strengthen the PSA's contention that the recruitment and selection policy should be unified across all departments.

The PSA calls for the North West Premier Office's intervention in ensuring that nepotism is rooted out at all departments. In addition, whistle-blowers should be precautionary transferred to other departments whilst the Premier's Office appoints independent practitioners to probe allegations.

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