

<b>MEDIA RELEASE</b>	PSA condemns assault of Nurses at Chuene Clinic in Limpopo
<b>DATE</b>	13 January 2025
<b>EMBARGO</b>	None
<b>ENQUIRIES</b>	communication@psa.co.za

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The Public Servants Association (PSA) strongly condemns the violent assault of two Nurses whilst on duty at Chuene 24-hour Clinic in Limpopo on 10 January 2025.

This appalling incident, in which an armed person overpowered three security guards, restrained them, and proceeded to abduct and sexually assault two nurses, is an attack on healthcare professionals and the safety and integrity of the healthcare system.

The PSA extends solidarity to the victims and their families, and all healthcare workers who selflessly serve communities under increasingly challenging conditions. Such acts of violence against healthcare professionals are unacceptable and must be met with swift justice and systemic change. The PSA is deeply concerned about the apparent failure of the security system at Chuene Clinic. The fact that a single perpetrator was able to overpower three security guards raises pressing questions about the adequacy and efficiency of security services provided by the contracted service provider. This failure highlights the urgent need for an investigation by the Limpopo Department of Health into security breaches that facilitated this tragic incident.

Healthcare facilities, especially those providing 24-hour services, must be sanctuaries of safety for patients and employees. The PSA therefore calls on the Head of the Limpopo Department of Health to conduct an immediate and thorough investigation into the failure of the security service provider. Enhanced security measures across all clinics, prioritising 24-hour facilities, must be implemented. There should be accountability and consequences for service providers who fail to meet safety standards.

The PSA reiterates the Union's commitment to advocating for the safety and dignity of all public servants. The PSA urges the Limpopo Department of Health to act decisively to prevent such incidents and uphold the safety of employees who dedicate their lives to serving the nation.

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