



**MEDIA RELEASE:** **PSA condemns brutal murder of uMlazi Comprehensive Technical High School security guard**

**DATE:** 8 May 2021

**EMBARGO:** None

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

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The Public Servants Association (PSA) is deeply disturbed and shocked by the brutal murder of a member of the Union at his home in Port Shepstone in KwaZulu-Natal on 7 May 2021.

Mr Henry Mbhele was employed as a security guard at uMlazi Comprehensive Technical High School. He was alleged to have witnessed the School's principal threatening employees and was murdered at his home in the wake of signing an affidavit as a witness in this matter.

The PSA previously alerted the KwaZulu-Natal MEC of Education, Mr Kwazi Mshengu, and the Head of the Department of Education, Dr Nzama, about tensions at the School. Both individuals have, however, ignored the PSA's petition containing serious allegations against the School's principal relating to abuse of power, maladministration, appointment irregularities, unfair dismissal of employees who disagreed with him, and mismanagement of the School's finances.

PSA members at the School have been threatened, followed by hit men, attacked on the School's premises, and victimised by learners' parents known by the principal. The brutal murder of a witness in this matter is cause for serious concern and the PSA calls upon the KZN MEC of Community Safety and Security to urgently appoint a team to investigate and bring the perpetrators to book. The PSA further calls upon the Premier of the Province to institute an investigation against the principal of uMlazi Comprehensive Technical School and ensure the protection of the School's staff.

The PSA extends sincere condolences to the family and colleagues of Mr Mbhele.

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