

Poor working conditions: Musina Magistrate Court

The PSA visited the institution on 28 May 2021 to assist a member with the disciplinary hearing and was shocked to see the poor working conditions at Musina Magistrate Court.

From the entrance gate there is a hole next to the sewerage pipe that is not closed. There are other unclosed holes. The PSA had no option but to check the entire institution and noted further non-compliance with OHS as the working environment is not conducive. Electricity wires are running across the passage. There was water in the toilet. There is green water outside the toilet that looks like sewerage and the wall is being balanced with bricks to prevent it from collapsing.

The PSA was seriously disturbed with these conditions and engaged the Court manager to find out why the working environment was not safe for employees. The manager responded that the institution was under renovation. The PSA was not happy with the response as members should not be working under those unsafe conditions.

The PSA had no option but to request for a Labour Inspection from the Department of Labour and Employment in terms of the *OHS Act* to inspect the institutions as the PSA view this as contravention of *clause 8 of the Occupational Health and Safety Act (OHS)*, which states that “every employer shall provide and maintain, as far as reasonably practicable, a working environment that is safe and without risk to the health of members”, hence the request for such an inspection. The PSA is waiting for the Labour Inspector to assist with the non-compliance of the *Occupational Health and Safety Act OHS*.

Shop stewards and members are urged to continuously check compliance with health and safety standards. Where non-compliance is identified, this must be reported to the PSA Provincial Office at queen.seema@psa.co.za or (015) 295 0500.

GENERAL MANAGER