



FOR PSA MEMBERS: **DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, LAND REFORM, AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT (DALRRD)**

07-02-2025

Registrar of Deeds - Johannesburg Region (OHS violations)

The PSA received alarming complaints from Union members employed by the DALRRD (Registrar of Deeds, Johannesburg office) regarding life-threatening occupational health and safety (OHS) violations in their workplace. In December 2024, the PSA Provincial Office conducted an inspection at the Registrar of Deeds office in Marble Towers, Johannesburg Central. The inspection revealed numerous OHS hazards, including:

- Malfunctioning and stuck elevators.
- Construction activities occurring whilst employees were present, posing severe risks.
- Poor ventilation owing to malfunctioning air-conditioning systems.

During a special meeting called by the PSA to meet management, the PSA was shocked to learn that despite these hazardous conditions, the Department had already allocated a budget exceeding R500 000 for renovations in the very same building. The lease for this building was to end on 31 January 2025. This amounts to fruitless expenditure because the building is not in a habitable condition.

The PSA immediately acted by formally requesting an inspection by the Department of Employment and Labour. As a result, Prohibition and Contravention Notices were issued to the Registrar of Deeds on 12 and 13 December 2024, with a 30-day compliance deadline.

The PSA is pleased to know that in early February 2025, a crucial meeting will take place between the Registrar of Deeds' National Occupational Health and Safety division and the Chief Registrar. This meeting is expected to address the dire conditions in the Johannesburg office. The PSA remains hopeful that appropriate measures, including the closure of unsafe offices, will be implemented to safeguard employees.

How to Join PSA

Employees who wish to join the PSA can contact the Provincial Organiser, Sibusiso Ndzala on Cell / WhatsApp: 082 880 8964 / sibusiso.ndzala@psa.co.za. Alternatively, employees can visit PSA Provincial Offices in all nine provinces for assistance.

Reuben Maleka
GENERAL MANAGER