



FOR PSA MEMBERS: **DEPARTMENT OF HOME AFFAIRS (DHA)**

14-03-2025

Victory for PSA members at DHA Head Office, Hallmark building

Health and safety conditions at Auditorium

It was previously reported to members that the PSA lodged a formal complaint with the employer regarding the hazardous and unhealthy conditions at the Auditorium on the ground floor. The Auditorium was previously used as a boardroom and a hall for memorial services and other departmental events. It was converted into office space for 18 employees from the Permitting section (Immigration Services).

The PSA raised a concern that the office space in the Auditorium lacked ventilation, and employees were suffocating whenever it was extremely hot. The office did not have windows, and the air conditioning was malfunctioning. Employees could no longer cope with the unbearable conditions at that office space owing to the lack of fresh air. In the winter season, the office space was extremely cold.

The PSA reported the matter to the Department of Employment and Labour for non-compliance with OHS legislation. The PSA further threatened to withdraw the Union's members from working in the space should the employer continue to ignore the genuine concerns raised. Subsequently, the employer succumbed to the pressure exerted by the PSA and finally agreed to move the 18 employees to the 17th floor to new office space. The decision was confirmed at the Head Office Consultative Forum meeting on 13 March 2025. The employees will relocate to the 17th floor with effect from 1 April 2025. The PSA is relieved that the employees will no longer experience poor and unhealthy working conditions. The PSA will continue to protect the rights and interests of members in the workplace.

Employees who want to join the PSA can visit the PSA's website, send an email to ask@psa.co.za, or contact PSA Provincial Offices.

Reuben Maleka
GENERAL MANAGER