Office of the National Director of Public Prosecutions

The National Prosecuting Authority of South Africa
Igunya Jikelele Labetshutshisi boMzantsi Afrika
Die Nationale Vervolgingsgesag van Suid-Afrika

TO: ALL MEDIA

DATE: 18 December 2008

RE: Bronkhorspruit Prosecutor arrested

The National Prosecuting Authority (NPA) finds it disturbing that a member of staff has been arrested for defeating the ends of justice. Moloke Chester Molaba was yesterday arrested by members of the South African Police Service at Bronkhorspruit Magistrate's court whilst on duty. Based on the directive from the office of the Director of Public Prosecutions, Pretoria, Molaba was taken to and appeared briefly before the Pretoria Regional court yesterday. He was granted bail at R3 500. The case has been postponed to 22 January 2009 for further investigations. He will be facing a total of 8 counts of defeating the ends of justice and one for reckless and negligent driving.

We appreciate and respect the fact that all accused persons, including Molaba have a constitutional right to be presumed innocent until such presumption is rebutted by evidence that results in a conviction by the courts. We however wish to reiterate that the NPA will not hesitate to act strongly even against its own staff where serious allegations of criminality emerge and are supported by evidence.
Parallel to criminal investigations, the NPA will conduct a departmental enquiry to investigate whether or not disciplinary proceedings against the said prosecutor must be instituted.

Conduct of law enforcement officials must be beyond reproach for they are the gatekeepers of our constitution. The society rightly expects unwavering integrity from them. No individual, prosecutors included, is immune from investigation and prosecution.

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Justice in our society, so that people can live in freedom and security