

**Office of the
National Director of Public
Prosecutions**



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

Tel: +27 12 845 6000
Fax: +27 12 845 7291

Victoria & Griffiths
Mxenge Building
123 Westlake
Avenue
Weavind Park
Silverton
Pretoria

P/Bag X752
Pretoria
0001
South Africa

www.npa.gov.za

TO: MEDIA

DATE: 5 OCTOBER 2007

RE: ARREST AND SEARCH WARRANTS

Despite its normal policy of not commenting on ongoing investigations, the NPA has decided to issue a further statement relating to the investigation involving the National Commissioner of the South African Police Service, Mr Jackie Selebi.

The NPA would like to clarify the status of the arrest and search warrants in this matter.

The Directorate of Special Operations (DSO or Scorpions) obtained an arrest warrant for Mr Selebi on 10 September 2007 from the Chief Magistrate in Randburg.

A search warrant was obtained on 14 September 2007 from the Deputy Judge President of the Witwatersrand Local Division of the High Court in Johannesburg.

The decision to obtain these warrants was carefully considered and supported by the senior management of the NPA, including the National Director of Public Prosecutions (NDPP), Adv Vusi Pikoli.

Shortly after his appointment as acting NDPP, Adv Mokotedi Mpshe decided to conduct a review of the matter. This implied that the arrest and search warrants would not be executed pending the outcome of the review.

On 27 September 2007 information leaked in the media about the existence of the warrants.

During the course of 28 September 2007 Adv Mpshe briefed the Minister and Director-General of the Department of Justice and Constitutional Development and officials from the Presidency about his initial assessment and further handling of the matter.



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Later on 28 September 2007 Adv Mpshe decided that it would be prudent to make an application for the cancellation of the arrest and search warrants pending the outcome of his reconsideration of the decision.

On the evening of 28 September 2007 Adv Mpshe approached the Magistrate's Court in Randburg and the magistrate agreed to the cancellation of the arrest warrant.

Adv Mpshe also contacted the Deputy Judge President and arranged to meet him on 30 September. At the meeting, the Deputy Judge President indicated that he was not prepared to grant the application without further motivation. Thereupon, Adv Mpshe decided not to proceed with the application.

The NPA would like to emphasise that it will continue with the investigation, and will announce a decision as soon as the review has been done.

Enquiries: Tlali Tlali 082 3333 880