

# Media Statement



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**TO: ALL MEDIA**

**DATE: 31 MARCH 2021**

**RE: SENIOR GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS IN COURT ON CORRUPTION CHARGES**

The Mpumalanga Head of the Department of Human Settlements, Kebone Masenga, Hawks Unit Commander of Serious Corruption Investigation, Lieutenant-Colonel Ayanda Plaatje, and Mpumalanga Province Acting Director of Public Prosecutions, Matric Luphondo, appeared at the Pretoria Magistrates' Court on charges of corruption today.

The bail application for the three will continue tomorrow, 01 April 2021.

It is alleged that the three colluded to bribe a prosecutor to withdraw charges of fraud and contravention of the Immigration Act that Masenga is facing.

The prosecutor reported the matter to his seniors as well as the police. Subsequent to further investigations, the three were arrested.

The NPA has initiated the relevant labour processes against Luphondo.

While the NPA is disappointed that any of its officials is entangled in such allegations, in conflict with our new values which are anchored on high ethical conduct, integrity and credibility, we take pride in the men and women who are resolute in defending our new vision. It is encouraging that there were prosecutors and investigators who acted swiftly and with honesty and strong moral principles in defence of our values and the law.

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