

Khasho



News for NPA staff, friends and stakeholders

Christmas Edition 2010



NPA Value Champions launched on 29 October 2010

Professionalism, Integrity, Service Excellence, Accountability and Credibility

Letter

From the Editor

The process of appointing a new service provider for Khasho has finally been concluded. We thank you Khasho readers for your patience during the past two months where Khasho was not in circulation. We hope to continue where we left off with the new publishers in the coming year.

This month we bring you a shorter version of Khasho produced in house within the confines of limited technological resources.

In this edition we bring you the NDPP's articulation of how he perceives the year 2010 to have been like for the NPA and the JCPS Cluster thereof. He also articulates on areas that need improvement in the coming year, please read his important message. We also bring you highlights of public service delivery initiatives that the NPA participated in during the last quarter of the year.



Bulelwa Makeke
Executive Manager: Communications

We note with appreciation that as the year comes to a close our minister Mr Jeff Radebe and other relevant Ministers signed the determination for both OSD and Cost of Living Adjustment for employees appointed under the NPA Act. Both these determinations have now been gazetted. The Cost of Living Adjustment is currently being implemented by the Persal system. Corporate Services is working tirelessly to ensure that both these processes take place within reasonable timeframes.

The festive season is fast approaching with many of us planning our festive activities with family and friends. As we travel to our various holiday destinations, we must all strive to arrive alive and come back with renewed and positive attitudes to take up challenges of the New Year.

“Arrive Alive”

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Letter from the National Director of Public Prosecutions

The year 2010 has finally come to an end. It is a year to be remembered in South Africa and internationally because of our successful hosting of the FIFA Soccer World Cup – a proud achievement to be claimed by the African continent.

In 2010, the NPA, together with our partners in the JCPS cluster, registered a number of successes, notably amongst them was the outstanding performance of the cluster during the FIFA Soccer World Cup. We have shown the world what South Africa is capable of doing as far as the efficient administration of justice is concerned. We have made a mark and left a legacy. I would not want us not to take lessons from that experience. I would like us to enter into 2011 with the same level of enthusiasm and zeal to serve our people. We have set very high standards for ourselves, and I urge all of you to strive to maintain them. I believe that if we work smarter, we can achieve more than we expect.

In 2011, I urge all of you to focus on raising the bar on the performance of the NPA. This will entail improving operational efficiency and effectiveness. All of us – as individuals and teams – should strive to perform our duties with increased levels of diligence.

I am sure you have seen the NPA's performance report for the second quarter of this financial year, which is available on the intranet. You will see that there are a number of areas where we have achieved excellence, and others that need improvement. One of the challenges that the NPA is currently addressing is the issue of court backlogs. Regional backlog courts have been set up and are indeed in operation.

There is also a growing need to use integrated justice system tools to rid our communities of criminal elements.

One of the areas in which we need to improve drastically is governance. We have a number of audit findings that need our serious attention, particularly in the area of leave audit and asset management. These are areas that are within the control of each staff member. I see no reason why we should not address these audit findings in the next couple of months.

Notwithstanding the above, I am confident that 2011 will be a successful and fruitful year for the NPA.



*Advocate Menzi Simelane
National Director of Public Prosecutions*

Finally, I know that most of you will be taking a break from work very soon. Let me take this opportunity to wish you and your loved ones a peaceful and joyous festive season and hope that you'll come back refreshed and energized. As you all know, the roads usually become extremely busy during this time of the year, and I therefore urge you to be vigilant at all times. **LET US ALL ARRIVE ALIVE**, and don't drink and drive.

To those who will be remaining behind to keep the NPA candle burning bright during the festive season, your efforts are highly appreciated.

Happy holidays!

NPA reaching out to the public

As part of reaching out to communities, increasing visibility and taking justice to the people, the NPA has, over the past few months, participated in the following events:

Corrections Week, 26 September to 3 October 2010

The event, which was organised by the Department of Correctional Services, took place from 26 September to 3 October 2010 in Mafikeng, with the aim of educating the public about the role of the Department in rehabilitating offenders. The NPA was also there to raise awareness about the work that we do.

Tamarha anti-crime awareness campaign, 28 September 2010

On 28 September, the NPA joined forces with GCIS and SAPS in an anti-crime awareness campaign in Tamarha, King William's Town. This was at the request of the Tamarha Women's Network, who were concerned about the prevalence of crime in and around their village. The campaign focused mainly on the role of communities in the fight against crime, particularly the abuse of children and women. Both the NPA and the SAPS stressed the importance of working with law enforcement agencies and reporting all forms of crime so that perpetrators could be brought to book.

Tshidilamolomo Roadshow, 9 October 2010

Together with our partners in the Justice, Crime Prevention and Security (JCPS) cluster, the NPA took service delivery to the community of Tshidilamolomo in Mafikeng. The purpose of the service fair was to assist the community of Tshidilamolomo with various services such as case reporting, maintenance enquiries, pending cases, applications for identity documents and passports, registration of marriages, late registration of birth, legal advice and general service delivery enquiries.

Zoar Roadshow, 27 November 2010

The NPA held its Western Cape leg of the National Integrated Community Programme in Zoar on 27 November as part of its service delivery campaign. More than 20 government departments and NGOs provided government services to

members of the poor Little Karoo Community. The following Departments and organisations attended: Justice, Health,



NPA members at the exhibition stand at Zoa, Western Cape

Home Affairs, Labour, Education, Transport & Public Works, Social Development, Local Government & Housing, Community Safety, Agriculture, Rural Development & Land Affairs, Correctional Services, as well as NDA, Legal Aid SA, Law Society, That's It, IDT, Nicro, and IEC. NPA staff members collected R560 to assist community members who could not pay for the processing of their new identity documents.

Reaching out through Project REACH, 19 September 2010

The NPA, together with Project Reach, a recovery programme for offenders of substance abuse, held a special event attended by more than 6000 people at the Word and Life Church in Boksburg on 19 September 2010. The aim of the project is to give offenders, who are guilty of illegal substance abuse, a second chance by offering them a rare opportunity to avoid prosecution, conviction and sentencing. The NPA in Boksburg refers drug offenders to Reach for purposes of diversion, a method whereby a criminal case is disposed of, other than through the normal court proceedings. However, offenders only qualify for diversion if they take full responsibility for their actions, and are willing to mend their ways

Reaching out to tertiary institutions

In September and October, the NPA conducted a number of career awareness sessions for students at tertiary institutions to promote the various career opportunities that exist in the NPA and the legal profession in general. These sessions were held at the University of Western Cape, Stellenbosch University, University of North West in Potchefstroom, Nelson Mandela Metropolitan University in Port Elizabeth and Howard College in Kwa-Zulu Natal. Approximately 600 students were reached.

On 8 October the NPA also participated in the annual Unisa Moot Court Competition for final year law students. The purpose of this competition is to give students a glimpse of the real court environment. In this competition, students are required to present a case, based on a specific set of facts before a panel of judges, usually as applicants or respondents. These facts must be researched by investigating all possible material and authoritative sources. After several months of research and coaching, the case is presented before an audience, as if in a court of law. Winners usually walk away with fabulous prizes from Lexis Nexis and Oxford University books.

Fun day at Mamelodi TCC, 23 October 2010

On 23 October 2010 the Mamelodi TCC, together with other stakeholders hosted a fun day for the communities of Mamelodi East at the Vista Campus Sports Grounds.



Children having fun in Mamelodi.

Although the fun day was for whole families, the focus was mainly on women and children as they are often the victims of violence and abuse. More than 1000 children attended the event, and participated in a number of fun activities organised for that day such as jumping castles, water slides and various sporting activities. SPAR Mamelodi also sponsored food parcels for the children. Other organizations that participated in this successful event were Itsoseng Counselling Clinic, Love Life, South African Police Service, the NPA, Sport Against Crime and various local churches. The Senior Prosecutor and his family also attended the event together with personnel from the Pretoria Magistrates Court.

Pretoria Court Preparation Officers also care

Another fun day was held by the Pretoria Court Preparation Officers for the destitute children from various children's homes in Pretoria on 6 November 2010. The fun day, which was held at the Pretoria Rugby Club, was organised in



Children showing off some of the items given by the NPA.

conjunction with Bethesda Dream Centre and Bethesda Christian Centre. A total of 250 children attended. The children were indeed given a royal treatment – with a number of fun activities organised for them, and goodie packs from Dairy Belle, MTN and the NPA. DSTV Cares also participated in the programme with music, dancing and competitions. King Pie also sponsored the lunch. The day was such a success that it will become an annual event.



Send your news (serious and funny) and letters to Khasho@npa.gov.za or fax your stories and information to 012 843 2120

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