

MEDIA STATEMENT

Attention News Editors/Transport Writers/All Reporters

For immediate release: 6 June 2019

RAILWAY SAFETY REGULATOR'S SUSPENDED CEO RESIGNS

The Board of Directors of the Railway Safety Regulator (RSR) has received the resignation of Mr Nkululeko Poya, Chief Executive Officer (CEO). The embattled CEO's resignation comes after he was placed on suspension in November 2017 and was subjected to a disciplinary inquiry. At the time of his resignation, Mr Poya was facing 14 charges which include gross misconduct, abuse of power, dishonesty, dereliction of duty and defying the authority of the Board, among others.

In an attempt to halt the disciplinary inquiry instituted by the Regulator, Mr Poya approached the Labour Court in 2018 where he essentially admitted culpability for some of the charges brought against him by the employer. Among the admissions were unauthorised private investigations aimed at Board members and a journalist as well as irregular procurement. His application was dismissed with costs, as it was deemed "meritless" by the court.

Mr Poya continued to demonstrate a flagrant disregard for the policies of the RSR while on suspension by registering and running a business without declaring it to the RSR. In light of the repeated violation and disregard for the policies of his employer, Mr Poya was served with a summons for breaching contractual, statutory and fiduciary duties.

It is against this backdrop that Mr Poya tendered his resignation. "After careful consideration of the detrimental impact Mr Poya's actions had on the Regulator's reputation and financial position, the Board of the RSR views

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Dr Nomusa Zethu Qunta (Chairperson), Mr Boy Johannes Nobunga (Deputy Chairperson), Ms Tshepo Kgare (Acting CEO), Mr Christiaan Johan de Vos, Major-General Michael Monashi Motlhalala, Ms Hilda Thamaga Thopola, Major-General Willem Adriaan Venter, Ms Ntombizine Mbiza, Mr Andre Harrison, Mr Tibor Szana, Ms Irene Nthulane, Mr Jan-David de Villiers

his resignation as an admission of guilt and in the best interest of the organisation. I am happy to announce that while Mr Poya has been on suspension the organisation has been restored and fully recovered from the financial strain experienced during his tenure,” said the RSR’s Chairperson of the Board, Dr Zethu Qunta.

ENDS

MEDIA ENQUIRIES

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