

FOR PSA MEMBERS: **DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE AND CONSTITUTIONAL DEVELOPMENT - LIMPOPO**

14-11-2024

Non-compliance with *Occupational Health and Safety Act (OHSA)* – Magistrates Court, Mokopane

A request for assistance was received from members stationed at Mokopane Magistrates Court following their frustrations in resolving issues affecting their health and safety at the workplace. Despite the efforts of the Occupational Health and Safety (OHS) Committee to compel the employer to address the risks, these pleas were continuously ignored.

Seeing the urgency of the identified matters, local PSA shop stewards in conjunction with the PSA Provincial Office, immediately escalated the matter to the Department of Employment and Labour, requesting an urgent inspection. The Inspectors subsequently conducted an inspection and issued a contravention notice wherein the employer was given 60 days to address the identified non-compliance. One of the Courts was immediately closed. The issues that were identified and raised by the Inspector as part of the non-compliance with the *OHSA* were:

- Cracked floors, open electrical cables, cracked office walls, unsafe courtroom floor, old dusty carpets, dysfunctional male toilets, falling ceilings with water marks and blocked smelly drainage.
- Grimy carpets and an insect infestation, which resulted in the immediate closure of Court A.

The PSA is pleased to report that Court A could resume services after five days following a thorough cleansing. The employer is in the process of having the carpets of the entire Magistrates Court cleaned professionally.

The PSA salutes the local PSA shop stewards for pursuing the matter in protecting the rights of employees in the workplace. Members will be informed of developments. The PSA will protect members' rights and promote their interests as practicing service excellence is an important value of the PSA. Members needing assistance with their cases can contact the PSA Provincial Manager at phillip.maponya@psa.co.za.

Employees who wish to join the PSA can contact Lawrence Muvhango on 082 880 8995, Paulina Moloto on 082 880 8957 or the PSA Provincial Office on (015) 295 0500.

Reuben Maleka
GENERAL MANAGER