

02/06/2017 PRETORIA NEWS Pg 1 SABS NATIONAL P05

Top cop shunted over 'graft'

SIYABONGA MKHWANAZI

ACTING national police commissioner Lieutenant-General Khomotso Phahlane has been removed from this position by President Jacob Zuma, following allegations of corruption against him. Phahlane was moved back to his position as head of forensic services, and regional commissioner for the police. Lieutenant-General Lesetja Mothiba has been appointed the new acting national commissioner.

However, Phahlane was then requested by Police Minister Fikile Mbalula to immediately give reasons why he should not be suspended from his position as head of forensic services.

Mbalula noted that the department had acted quickly against Phahlane, following the allegations against him. But Mbalula said due process had to be followed before action could be taken.

Mbalula also said the police would have a permanent head by August as suspended commissioner

Riah Phiyega's contract ends on June 10.

Mothiba told the media in Parliament he would focus on fighting crime. He said he would be meeting the minister to discuss the way forward. "We know the minister presented his budget vote last week. My role is to fight crime and provide a service to the people of this country," he said.

Mbalula said there were serious allegations of misconduct against Phahlane which impacted on his fitness to hold office.

Mothiba is new acting top cop

The acting tenure of Lieutenant-General Khomotso Phahlane came to an end yesterday.

Mothiba is currently the SAPS divisional head of the management intervention unit.

Phahlane gets the boot

Mothiba new acting police commissioner

President Jacob Zuma has appointed Lieutenant-General Lesetja Mothiba as the acting national commissioner of the South African Police Service.

"The acting tenure of Lieutenant-General Khomotso Phahlane came to an end today, 1 June 2017," the Presidency said in a statement. "The president has thanked Lieutenant-General Phahlane for the leadership of the police during his acting tenure."

Mothiba was the SAPS divisional head of the management intervention unit. "President Zuma has congratulated the new acting commissioner and wishes him all the success in his new responsibility."

TMG Digital

02/06/2016 SOWETAN Pg 5 (TOS) SABS NAT

Acting top cop demoted over graft

The Star, PG 2, 02/06/17, SABS NAT, Pos
Phahlane moved back to head forensic services

SIYABONGA MKHWANAZI

ACTING national police commissioner Lieutenant-General Khomotso Phahlane has been removed from this position by President Jacob Zuma in the wake of allegations of corruption against him.

Phahlane was moved back to his position as head of forensic services, and regional police commissioner Lieutenant-General Lesetja Mothiba has been appointed the new acting national commissioner.

However, Phahlane was then requested immediately by Police Minister Fikile Mbalula to give reasons why he should not be suspended from his position as head of forensic services.

Mbalula noted that the department had acted quickly against Phahlane following the allegations against him.

But he said due process had to be followed before action could be taken.

Mbalula also said the police would have a permanent head by August, as suspended commissioner Riah Phiyega's contract ends on June 10.

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He said he would be meeting the minister to discuss the way forward. "We know the minister presented his budget vote last week. My role is to fight



OUT:
Khomotso
Phahlane



IN: Lesetja
Mothiba

crime and provide a service to the people of this country," said Mothiba.

Mbalula said there were serious allegations of misconduct against Phahlane which impacted on his fitness to hold office.

"The allegations against Phahlane raise questions of conduct that are inconsistent with expectations that South Africans have of those who hold leadership positions in our police service," he said.

Mbalula said he had informed Zuma of the negative impact Phahlane's presence continued to have on the police. He said the police's job was to fight crime in the country and not to be sidetracked.

Mbalula added that the allegations against Phahlane were serious and posed a threat

to the Independent Police Investigative Directorate (Ipid).

Phahlane has been involved in a fight with Ipid, with both parties accusing the other of wrongdoing. The fight resulted in heated exchanges in Parliament two weeks ago, and Mbalula will return to Parliament next week to give an update.

Ipid accused Phahlane of setting up a special unit from North West to harass its investigators.

But Phahlane hit back, accusing Ipid of flouting the law in its probe and using private investigator Paul O'Sullivan.

Mbalula said he would meet the top brass of the police and provincial commissioners today to brief them.

Speaking out against the abuse of police resources, he said they would not tolerate what Phahlane did as alleged by Ipid.

"We will never allow state machinery to be misused to address narrow individual interests. We must intervene and be decisive when state resources are misused," he said.

This was in reference to claims by Ipid that Phahlane was using his office to set up a unit from North West to intimidate officials investigating him.

Phahlane denied this in Parliament and said the unit was looking into his safety after he had been attacked during a robbery in Joburg in June last year.

SAPS NW 02/MAY 2017 POSITIVE THE CITIZEN Pg 6

Arrests after arson protest at municipal offices

The Ditsobotla local municipality in North West is cleaning up offices after a portion of its building was set alight and the mayor held hostage, the municipality said yesterday.

"We are removing rubble and renovating offices," said municipal spokesperson Pius Batsile.

He said some of the municipal workers had returned to work. They were expecting all workers to be back on Monday.

A group of irate residents from ward 3 in Boikhutso, also known as Phola, near Lichtenburg, held mayor Daniel Buthelezi hostage

and torched a portion of the municipal building on May 24. The mayor was not hurt during the incident.

The protesters wanted inclusion and prioritisation in the municipality's integrated development plan (IDP) and wanted some projects to be brought forward to the 2017-18 financial year instead of being allocated to financial year 2018-19.

North West police arrested 32 people on charges ranging from kidnapping and arson, to attempted murder.

Police spokesperson Lieutenant-Colonel Amanda Funani said the suspects appeared in the Lichtenburg Magistrate's Court on Wednesday and their case was postponed to Monday.



The provincial chairperson of South African Local Government Association in North West, Fetsang Mokati, condemned the burning

of municipal buildings. "I will be failing in my responsibilities, as the chairperson of Salga in the province, if I do not flag this concern."

"We condemn in the strongest possible terms the burning of municipal buildings or community property in our municipalities.

"We are living in a democratic country, everyone has a constitutional right to protest, but I do not think there is a right to destroy and hurt others," she said at the council meeting of Bojanala Platinum district municipality, where she is the mayor. - ANA

SAPS NW TNA PCIA Municipal offices set alight

02 MAY 2017
NEGATIVE

ELFAS TORERAI

MAMUSA local municipality offices became the latest to be burnt as public protests boiled over in the North West.

The offices situated in Schweizer Reneke were set alight yesterday by a group of unidentified people.

Local government and human settlements MEC, Galaletsang Gaolaolwe, condemned the incident that happened around lunch time yesterday.

The arson came after members of the community demanded the reinstatement of the acting municipal manager, Lucky Fourie, who was seconded from the department to the municipality in April.

"We are deeply disturbed that we still have people who voice their frustration in a violent manner by destroying public infrastructure," Gaolaolwe said.

"No amount of anger justifies the torching of municipal offices. On behalf of the provincial government, I want to appeal to law enforcement agencies to apprehend the perpetrators."

No arrests have been made so far.
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Mortuary owner shot dead!

DAILY SUN, PG 4, Neg.
By EVERSON LUHANGA No 5486, 02/06/17

MORTUARY owner Kegomoditswe Sereei is now among the several corpses she was preparing for burial last weekend.

Four gunmen stormed her mortuary and demanded cash from her.

They shot and killed her when she told them there was no cash!

An employee of the mortuary in Taung, North West, Kgalalelo Seipone (47), said: "The men demanded cash from us. One of the men took my doek and covered my face.

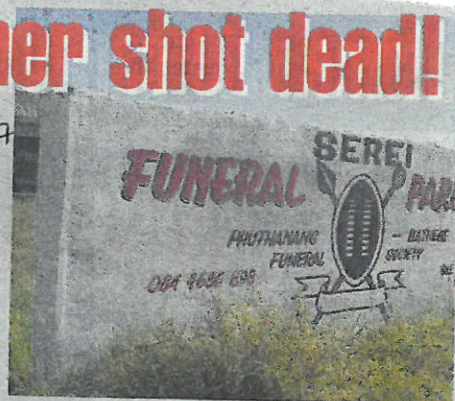
"They searched me for money and found R300 in my purse. When they realised there was no cash in the building, they got angry and started shooting."

Employees managed to run to a nearby church to ask for help.

"The pastor came in his car to try and take Kegomoditswe to hospital but realised it was too late. She was dead," said Kgalalelo.

Obakeng Serei (24), the dead woman's youngest child, believes the thugs were not looking for money.

"Though they took money and belongings from the workers, no one else was hurt," he said.



A wall with the name of the robbed mortuary.

Photo by Thuso Sebotho

"Cops need to get to the core of this case and make sure suspects are bust. They are known in the community."

Tshepo Moleleki (25) said he was still traumatised by the incident.

"I can't sleep at night," she said.

"Whenever I close my eyes I hear gunshots. I need help.

"It is going to be hard for us without our boss."

North West police spokesman, Lieutenant-Colonel Pelonomi Makau, said police were investigating a murder case.

No one has been arrested and investigations are continuing.