



CORPORATE COMMUNICATION AND ICT

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Media Statement

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RENTAL HOUSING TRIBUNAL

The department of Human Settlements in the North West is pleased with the contribution the Rental Housing Tribunal is making within the rental sector. Thus far statutory body has successfully resolved conflicts between tenants and landlords across the North West province. The majority of cases dealt with are from areas such as Ngaka Modiri Molema and Bojanala Districts due to issues of migrant workers from various sectors or students of various institutions of higher learning.

Currently the tribunal is sitting in the Dr Kenneth Kaunda District where they have already resolved several cases lodged by either the landlord or tenants. In A recent case where the respondent being the landlord argued that the complainant is not party to a lease agreement as a result he cannot account to the complainant as she is not relevant to the matter in terms of a Landlord Tenant Relationship as prescribed in the Act. The complainant being the tenant wanted to claim the key deposit on behalf of her fiancé.

However the tribunal ruled that the complainant lacks the necessary locus standi to have lodged such a complaint. As a result the application for an order to refund key deposit was dismissed by the Tribunal.

The Tribunal sets out guidelines to be followed when parties enter into a rental agreement. The body is again tasked to promote stability in the rental housing sector by resolving disputes that may arise from time to time. Issues such as house rules set out by landlords, receipts for rental payments, services cut-offs' without a court order, withholding of tenants possessions, overcrowding and subletting, exploitative rents, service charges and damage to property are general conflicts that cause disputes between the landlords and tenants. Such challenges were mostly resolved through the Rental Housing Tribunal.

More information can be obtained from the North West Housing Tribunal offices at 018 388 5560/ 5529/ 5530 email: legodim@nwpg.gov.za \ mseate@nwpg.gov.za

END

Issued by the Department of Human Settlements (North West)

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