



## **The South African Policing Union**

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### **PRESS STATEMENT**

#### **SAPU SUPPORTS LOOMING COP STRIKE**

The South African Policing Union would like to call upon the South African Police Service management to avert the looming strike by functionary members of the police based in police stations. We have noted with concern the debate among disgruntled police officers over what they feel is the preferential treatment enjoyed by specialist units at the expense of police officers in police stations.

We want to put it on record we acknowledge and have made members aware of the fact that the police are categorized as an essential service and therefore not allowed to engage in an industrial action. We do support these members who some it has taken more than a decade in one rank. We are calling upon the management to swallow its pride and come into senses and avert this strike as it will cost the country dearly.

To us as SAPU even if we do not witness a full-blown strike, the mere talk of this industrial action is too much. This situation has a potential to compromise service delivery. It is clear that already we have a demoralized workforce. A demotivated police service is a recipe for disaster. We are a worker-controlled and democratically led labour movement. As much as we have alerted members of the danger of engaging in an industrial strike, we cannot on our own rule out the possibility of this looming strike being a reality because we understand the frustration that these members are faced with.

SAPU calls upon national commissioner General Khehla Sitole to act with speed and provide leadership before it is too late. The police environment is a military by orientation and therefore it is of paramount importance that we maintain cool heads. We must not be viewed as alarmist by raising our genuine concerns that disgruntled members could pose a serious threat to the stability of the country on the eve of the crucial elections on May 8.

**Issued by: Tumelo Mogodiseng**  
**General Secretary**  
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#### **National Office Bearers:**

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