



**MAGISTRATES COMMISSION
FOR THE
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA**

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TO ALL THE MEDIA HOUSES: FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

28 May 2026

**MEDIA STATEMENT REGARDING THE COMPLAINT AGAINST CHIEF MAGISTRATE
TULETO TONJENI IN THE MATTER OF STATE v SIBANYONI AND OTHERS**

1. The Magistrates Commission ("the Commission") has noted reports regarding the events that took place in the matter of Sibanyoni and Others at Kwaggafontein Magistrate's Court.
2. On 26 May 2026, the Commission received a complaint from Advocate Mlungisi Mangwanyana, the Acting Director of Public Prosecutions, Mpumalanga, against Chief Magistrate Tuleto Tonjeni who presided over the bail application in the matter.
3. The Commission is investigating the matter and respectfully appeals to the public and the media to allow it the opportunity to properly address the complaint in accordance with its prescribed processes.
4. To preserve the fairness and credibility of these processes, the Commission will refrain from making any further public pronouncements on the matter at this stage.
5. Pending the final determination of the complaint, the Commission urges the media to please report on the matter responsibly and with due regard to the integrity of the ongoing processes.

6. For any further information, please contact the Secretary of the Commission, Mr Maritshane Justice Finger via email at JuFinger@justice.gov.za.

ADV N MANAKA

SPOKESPERSON: MAGISTRATES COMMISSION

CHAIRPERSON: ETHICS COMMITTEE

28/05/2024