# IN THE CONSTITUTIONAL COURT OF SOUTH AFRICA

CASE NO. 48/2017

In the matter between

SOUTH AFRICAN SOCIAL SECURITY AGENCY

First Applicant

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER, SOUTH AFRICA SOCIAL

**SECURITY AGENCY** 

Second Applicant

and

MINISTER OF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

First Respondent

**BLACK SASH TRUST** 

Second Respondent

MINISTER OF FINANCE

Third Respondent

**NATIONAL TREASURY** 

Fourth Respondent

CASH PAYMASTER SERVICES (PTY) LIMITED

Fifth Respondent

**INFORMATION REGULATOR** 

Sixth Respondent

SOUTH AFRICAN POST OFFICE SOC LTD

Seventh Respondent

FREEDOM UNDER LAW NPC

Eighth Respondent

And

**CORRUPTION WATCH (NPC) RF** 

First Amicus Curiae

# **FILING SHEET**

**KINDLY TAKE NOTICE** that the following documents are presented for filing on behalf of the First Respondent:

1. First Respondent's Affidavit.

Dated at JOHANNESBURG on this \_\_\_\_\_ \8th\_\_\_ day of May 2018.

HARRIS NUPEN MOLEBATSI INC
Attorney for the First Respondent:

**Minister of Social Development** 

3<sup>rd</sup> Floor, 1 Bompas Road Dunkeld West, Johannesburg

Tel: 011 017 3100

Fax: 011 268 0470

Email: basetsana@hnmattorneys.co.za;

rethabile@hnmattorneys.co.za

Ref: B Molebatsi / R Makhetha

TO:

THE REGISTRAR OF THE CONSTITUTIONAL COURT

**CONSITUTIONAL HILL** 

**BRAAMFONTEIN** 

AND TO:

CENTRE FOR APPLIED LEGAL STUDIES

SERVICE BY EMAIL

**Attorneys of the Second Respondent:** 

**Black Sash Trust** 

1st floor, DJ du Plessis Building

West Campus, University of the

Witwatersrand

1 Jan Smuts Avenue

Johannesburg

Tel: 011 717 8606

Fax: 011 717 1702

Email: Nomonde.Nyembe@wits.ac.za

Ref: BHR/0062/NN

AND TO:

**RENQE FY INCORPORATED** 

**SERVICE BY EMAIL** 

**Attorney for the Second & Third** 

Respondents: CEO of SASSA & SASSA

50A 7th Avenue,

Parktown North

**Johannesburg** 

C/O MADLOPA INC

Tel: 012 771 8688

Fax: 086 571 9470

Email: olwethu@renqe.co.za; feziwer@rk-

law.co.za

AND TO:

STATE ATTORNEY, JOHANNESBURG

**SERVICE BY EMAIL** 

Attorney for Third & Fourth

Respondents: Minister of Finance and

**National Treasury** 

12th Floor North State Building

95 Market Street, cnr Kruis Street

**Johannesburg** 

2001

C/O: Vijay Dhulam

Email: vdhulam@justice.gov.za

Attention: Rebecca Tee

Email: minreg@treasury.gov.za;

Rebecca.tee@treasury.gov.za

Mobile: 083 564 8539

AND TO:

**SMIT SEWGOOLAM INC** 

SERVICE BY EMAIL

Attorneys for the Fifth Respondent: CPS

12 Avonwold Road

Cnr Jan Smuts Avenue

Saxonwold

2132

Tel: 011 646 0006

Fax: 011 646 0016

Attention: Tiaan Jonker

Email: tiaan@smitsew.co.za

Attention: Sacha Catazorio

Email: sacha@smitsew.co.za

AND TO:

**GILDENHUYS MALATJI** 

**SERVICE BY EMAIL** 

**Attorneys for Sixth Respondent:** 

Information Regulator

Katherine & West Building, 114 West Street

Sandton, Johannesburg

2146

Tel: 012 428 8687

Fax: 012 428 8787

C/O: Tebogo Malatji

Email: tmalatji@gminc.co.za

Attention: Mmamoroke Mphelo

Tel: 012 406 4818

Fax: 086 500 3351

Email: inforeg@justice.gov.za

AND TO:

**SHEPSTONE & WYLIE ATTORNEYS** 

**SERVICE BY EMAIL** 

**Attorneys for the Seventh Respondent:** 

**South African Post Office** 

38 Weirda Road West

Sandton

Tel: +27(0) 290 2540

Ref: SOUT55.152 Mr Tayob Kamdar/

Noushaad Omarjee

Email: tkamadar@wylie.co.za/

nomarjee@wylie.co.za

AND TO:

**NORTONS INC** 

**SERVICE BY EMAIL** 

Attorneys of the Eighth Respondent:

Freedom Under law

135 Daisy Street, Sandton

Tel: +27(0) 11 666 7560

Fax: +27(0) 86 600 5529

Ref: A Norton / A Roets

Email:anthony@nortonsinc.com;

anton@nortonsinc.com;

Michelle@nortonsinc.com

AND TO:

**VAN HUYLSTENS ATTORNEYS** 

**SERVICE BY EMAIL** 

**Attorneys for the Amicus Curiae:** 

**Corruption Watch** 

3rd Floor, Katherine & West Building

114 West Street

Sandton

Tel: +27(0) 11 523 5300

Ref: Mr D Raath/ K Naidoo

Attention: Daniel Rath

Email: Daniel@vhlaw.co.za

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**Applicant** 

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First Amicus Curiae

SOUTH AFRICAN POST OFFICE SOC LTD

Second Amicus Curiae

FIRST RESPONDENT'S AFFIDAVIT IN TERMS OF COURT ORDER DATED 23

MARCH 2018

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I, the undersigned,

# **SUSAN SHABANGU**

do hereby make oath and state:

- I am the Minister of the Department of Social Development, the First 1. Respondent in this matter ("the Minister").
- 2. The facts contained herein are within my personal knowledge, save where the contrary appears from the context, and are to the best of my knowledge and belief both true and correct.
- 3. Where I make legal submissions, I do so, on the advice of my legal representatives, which was obtained during the preparation of this affidavit.

#### THE PURPOSE OF THIS AFFIDAVIT

- 4. This affidavit is filed in compliance with this Court's order dated 23 March 2018 ("the Court Order"), in terms of which obligations were imposed on me, as Minister, to file reports on the implementation of the Court order on a monthly basis and to report to the Court any material change in respect of any matter contained in the monthly reports.
- 5. On 30 April 2018, I filed my report in accordance with paragraph 5 of the Court Order ("April Report") and this affidavit is submitted as an update to the Court in respect of the actions that I have taken subsequent to the filing of the April Report.

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#### CANCELLATION OF THE CASH PAYMENT TENDER

6. I am aware of the decision contained in the supplementary report filed by the Acting Chief Executive Officer of SASSA on 15 May 2018, *inter alia* stating that he has resolved to cancel the bid bearing number 15/17/SP/HO for the Provision of Cash Payment Services for Social Assistance ("the Tender").

#### THE APPOINTMENT OF A TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

7. In light of the cancellation of the Tender and in order to ensure compliance with the Court's order in relation to the payment of social grants to beneficiaries, I have decided to establish a Technical Committee ("Technical Committee") in accordance with regulation 20 of the Treasury Regulations published in terms of the Public Finance Management Act 1 of 1999 ("PFMA").

# Purpose of the Technical Committee

8. The purpose of the Technical Committee is *inter alia* to explore and recommend to the Minister alternatives to the cash payment of social grants; as well as to advise on matters relating to the transition from Cash Paymaster Services ("CPS") and the appropriate governance dispensation of SASSA, with the ultimate purpose of ensuring that the orders of the Court are fully complied with.

# Rationale for the services of a Technical Committee

9. SASSA has, over the last few years, been working on a plan to gear itself to take over the payment of social grants from CPS. Various projects aimed at developing a payment model and related system were undertaken by the Council for Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR), Ministerial Advisory Committee (MAC) and subsequently, the work streams. A number of payment models were developed by the aforementioned entities, but were neither fully examined nor implemented, and the work completed did not culminate in SASSA taking full responsibility over the payment of social grants.

- 10. A need therefore exists for a Technical Committee to be established to inter alia consolidate, analyse and evaluate all the reports produced by the different entities and to make recommendations on the basis of the immediate, medium and long-term strategic outlook and the overall impact this will have SASSA. The Technical Committee will also assist SASSA with the implementation of alternatives to the cash payment services.
- 11. The Technical Committee will be operational for a period of 12 (twelve) months and it will work together with SASSA management in the implementation of a plan that will improve efficiencies in the payment of social grants in compliance with the orders of the Court.

#### Members of the technical committee

- 12. The Technical Committee will comprise professionals with previous experience and knowledge in the following fields:
- 12.1. Social grants policy and implementation;
- 12.2. The South African payment landscape including National Payment System and related Banking regulations;
- 12.3. Supply Chain Management and/or contracting issues;



- 12.4. The public sector institutional landscape in South Africa in general and the South African government systems in particular;
- 12.5. The PFMA and Treasury Regulations;
- 12.6. The Public Service procurement procedures;
- 12.7. Auditing and Accounting; and
- 12.8. Enterprise Programme and Project Management.
- 13. The Technical Committee will be comprised of the following individuals:
- 13.1. <u>Ms Dipuo Peters</u>: Former Minister of Transport and former Premier of the Northern Cape Provincial Government. Ms. Peters has vast experience in governance acquired through her service as a Premier and a Minister.
- 13.2. <u>Mr Vusi Madonsela</u>: Current Director-General of the Department of Justice and Constitutional Development and former Director-General of the Department of Social Development.
- 13.3. <u>Ms Totsie Memela:</u> Former Managing Director of Post Bank and Executive Officer of Women's Development Bank Trust. She has experience in the payment of social grants by the South African Post Office.
- 13.4. <u>Mr Selwyn Jehoma</u>: Former Deputy Director-General of the Department of Social Development. He was part of the team that established SASSA.
- 13.5. <u>Mr Sipho Shezi</u>: Former Special Adviser to the former Minister of Social Development.

# CONCLUSION

- 14. An update on the establishment of the Technical Committee will be included in my report that is due at the end of May 2018.
- 15. I am mindful of the 30 September 2018 deadline and I have every intention to ensure compliance thereof. I further remain committed to ensuring that SASSA realises its objective to ensure the uninterrupted payment of social grants to social grant beneficiaries.

SUSAN SHABANGU

I CERTIFY that this affidavit was signed and sworn to before me at \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ on this the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ day of MAY 2018, by the deponent who acknowledged that he knew and understood the contents of this affidavit, had no objection to taking this oath, considered this oath to be binding on his conscience and who uttered the following words: "I swear that the contents of this affidavit are true, so help me God".

COMMISSIONER OF OATHS

Name:

Address:

Capacity:

SOUTH AFRICAN POLICE SERVICE
CRIME PREVENTION

2018 -05- 1 8

PRETORIA CENTRAL
SOUTH AERICAN POLICE SERVICE

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