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Media Statement – Impersonation of Justice M Madlanga: Justice of the Constitutional Court

***Note:** Please attribute this statement solely to the Office of the Chief Justice (OCJ) as Government Department and not the Chief Justice of the Republic of South Africa or the Judiciary.*

On Wednesday, 29 May 2024, an unknown person whose WhatsApp page reflects his name as Justice Mbuyiselo Madlanga sent a text message to a senior official of the Electoral Commission. The text message, sent from cell phone number 072 691 1537, was clearly an attempt to impersonate Constitutional Court Justice, Justice Mbuyiseli Madlanga.

The Office of the Chief Justice (OCJ) wishes to place it on record that this text message did not come from Justice Madlanga. Justice Madlanga is grateful to the Electoral Commission for alerting him to this impersonation.

Earlier on the same day, 29 May 2024, a text purporting to have been sent by Justice Madlanga from the same number was received by an official of the South African Broadcasting Corporation (SABC). The sender was asking for a contact number of a former senior official of the SABC. This text was also not sent by Justice Madlanga.

On 19 August 2023, the OCJ issued a media statement concerning the impersonation of Justice Madlanga where cell phone number 063 204 2566 was used. Several other Judges have been impersonated on various occasions over a long period of time. The OCJ alerted the relevant authorities so that this unseemly behaviour may be brought to a stop and the culprit or culprits brought to book.

Ends.

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Issued by the Office of the Chief Justice

