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Media Statement - Individuals impersonating Deputy Judge President Aubrey Ledwaba and retired Judge Siraj Desai

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.*

By direction of Deputy Judge President Aubrey Ledwaba of the Gauteng Division of the High Court, and retired Judge Siraj Desai, the Office of the Chief Justice (OCJ) has been requested to issue this media statement.

It was brought to the attention of the OCJ that there is an individual or individuals impersonating Deputy Judge President Ledwaba and retired Judge Desai, who have contacted a senior official in government, using the names of the respective Judges. On the current available information, the impersonators have attempted to get contact/cell phone number(s) of a certain person. The motives of the impersonators are unknown and not yet clear.

The public is hereby warned not to fall prey to these impersonators and need to be aware that impersonating a Judicial Officer is a criminal offence.

Members of the public and media are requested to contact the OCJ to verify the authenticity of any communication, directive, article, or social media post that purports to be that of a Judge.

Ends.

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Issued by the Office of the Chief Justice

