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JUDICIAL SERVICE COMMISSION

MEDIA STATEMENT

JUDICIAL SERVICE COMMISSION'S DECISION ON A COMPLAINT LODGED BY JUDGE PRESIDENT C MUSI AGAINST JUDGE LJ LEKALE OF THE FREE STATE DIVISION OF THE HIGH COURT

- [1] On 31 January 2025, following the continuous failure of Judge L J Lekale to perform his judicial functions over a period of six (6) years due to ill-health, a formal complaint was lodged by Judge President C Musi, of the Free State Division of the High Court, against Judge Lekale in terms of section 14 of the Judicial Service Commission Act 9 of 1994 (JSC Act).
- [2] The complaint was processed in terms of section 16(1)(a) of the JSC Act and was referred to the Judicial Conduct Committee (JCC) for determination on whether it should recommend to the Commission that a Judicial Conduct Tribunal (Tribunal) be established to investigate the complaint. Following a meeting of the JCC on 29 April 2025, held in terms of section 16(2) of the JSC Act, the JCC recommended to the Commission that a Tribunal be established to investigate the complaint.
- [3] The Commission, excluding the members designated by the National Assembly and the National Council of Provinces, considered the recommendation from the JCC at a meeting on 10 October 2025. The Commission resolved to uphold the recommendation of the JCC that the complaint lodged by Judge President Musi against Judge Lekale be investigated by a Judicial Conduct Tribunal.

Issued by the Secretariat of the Judicial Conduct Committee

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