



CHIEF JUSTICE MAYA MOURNS THE PASSING OF FORMER EASTERN CAPE JUDGE PRESIDENT TEMBA SANGONI

The Chief Justice of the Republic of South Africa and the entire Judiciary mourn the passing of Former Judge President Temba Sangoni, a jurist of towering intellect, unwavering principle, and a dedicated servant of justice. Judge Sangoni passed away peacefully in Johannesburg on 10 June 2025 after a short illness, according to his family.

Judge Sangoni's illustrious career was marked by his profound commitment to the rule of law and the transformation of South Africa's legal landscape. Appointed as Judge President of the Eastern Cape High Court, he served with distinction until his retirement in 2017, leaving an indelible legacy in the annals of our legal system. His leadership was instrumental in addressing systemic challenges within the Eastern Cape Judiciary, including case flow management and access to justice in historically marginalized regions such as Mthatha.

Beyond the bench, Judge Sangoni was a respected senior traditional leader of the Qokolweni-Zimbane Traditional Council in Mthatha, bridging the realms of customary law and constitutional democracy. His life was a testament to the ideals of justice, humility, and service - principles he upheld as one of the three executors of Nelson Mandela's estate, alongside Advocate George Bizos SC and Justice Dikgang Moseneke.

The Chief Justice extends heartfelt condolences to the Sangoni family, the Eastern Cape Judiciary, and the AbaThembu community. "Judge Sangoni's legacy is etched not only in the judgments he delivered but in the lives he touched and the dignity he brought to the profession. We are poorer for his passing but richer for his contributions," the Chief Justice remarked.

Details regarding memorial services will be communicated in due course. The Judiciary, led by the Chief Justice, invites the public to join in honouring a life of profound purpose and enduring impact.

Ends.

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