



188, 14th Road, Noordwyk, Midrand, 1685
Private Bag X10, Marshalltown, 2107
Tel: +27 10 493 2500 (Switchboard)
E-mail: mediaenquiries@judiciary.org.za
www.judiciary.org.za

Media Statement

23 October 2025

STATEMENT BY CHIEF JUSTICE MANDISA MAYA ON BEHALF OF THE JUDICIARY ON THE TESTIMONY AT MADLANGA COMMISSION

The Judiciary has noted, with great concern, the testimony given on 21 October 2025 by one “Witness A” at the Judicial Commission of Inquiry into Criminality, Political Interference, and Corruption in the Criminal Justice System, known as the Madlanga Commission, to the effect that he heard from an informer that a sum of R2,5 million was earmarked to secure bail for Mr Katiso “KT” Molefe although the witness did not know if this money was intended for the presiding judge, Acting Judge President Ledwaba, or the Public Prosecutor.

This testimony, an allegation yet to be tested and proved at this stage, still has the potential of damaging the integrity of the Judiciary and we reiterate a plea which the Judiciary has issued on numerous previous occasions – that any person who has evidence of a Judge’s misconduct must promptly lodge a complaint against that Judge with the Judicial Conduct Committee (JCC) of the Judicial Service Commission (JSC). The JSC is the constitutional body with the lawful mandate to investigate any alleged misconduct by a Judge and, in terms of the provisions of the Judicial Service Commission Act 9 of 1994, recommend the suspension of the Judge to the President who is the functionary with the power to suspend a Judge in terms of the Constitution.

The process of the JSC is triggered by a formal complaint on oath, which has not been done in this case. The Chief Justice has, however, discussed the matter with Ledwaba AJP, including the possibility of granting him special leave pending finalisation of the Madlanga Commission. Ledwaba AJP, who strenuously denies receiving any money to grant Mr Molefe bail, has indicated that he will not take special leave, which a Judge may not be forced to take and applies for voluntarily. He has also indicated that he is seeking legal advice and expressed a wish to be afforded an opportunity to give his side of the story at the Madlanga Commission.



The Judiciary acknowledges its obligation to ensure that appropriate action is taken expeditiously where any Judicial Officer is found to have acted unlawfully or unethically and reasserts its commitment to its duty to serve all South Africans with impartiality and integrity.

Ends.

Media enquiries:

Email: mediaenquiries@judiciary.org.za

Issued by the Office of the Chief Justice