OFFICE OF THE CHIEF JUSTICE
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

JUDICIAL SERVICE COMMISSION

MEDIA STATEMENT

JUDICIAL SERVICE COMMISSION'S DECISION ON A COMPLAINT LODGED BY JUDGE PRESIDENT LEDWABA AGAINST JUDGE PHAHLANE OF THE GAUTENG DIVISION OF THE HIGH COURT

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[1] The Judicial Service Commission (Commission), excluding the members designated by the National Assembly and the National Council of Provinces, met on 9 October 2026 to consider the report of the Judicial Conduct Committee (JCC) in relation to the complaint in respect of allegations of gross misconduct that was lodged by (then) Acting Judge President Ledwaba against Judge Phahlane of the Gauteng Division of the High Court.

[2] The JSC resolved that there are reasonable grounds to suspect that Judge Phahlane is guilty of gross misconduct as contemplated in section 177(1)(a) of the Constitution. The complaint warrants referral to a Tribunal for consideration. Thus, the Commission, acting under section 19(1)(a) of the Judicial Service Commission Act 9 of 1994, resolves to request the Chief Justice to appoint a Tribunal to investigate the complaint which has been lodged by then Acting Judge President Ledwaba against Judge Phahlane.

Issued by the Secretariat of the Judicial Service Commission

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