

The Director of Public Prosecutions  
KwaZulu-Natal Division  
Pietermaritzburg  
KwaZulu-Natal

10 July 2026

**BY E-MAIL:** [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

*Dear Adv Harrison,*

**STATE VERSUS MATHONSI, SHABALALA, SIMPHIWE ERIC ZUMA AND  
OTHERS: MPHOPHOMENI CAS 09/12/2023 AND HOWICK CAS 34/01/2024.  
YOUR REFERENCE: 10/2/12/3-147/2024.**

1. This letter refers to the matter mentioned *supra* and to our previous correspondence dated 14, 21 April and 27 May 2026 and Mr Leask's WhatsApp to Adv Gcweka on 7 July 2026.
2. We unfortunately highlight the consistent failure to respond to our correspondence.
3. We reiterate that the correspondence mentioned above, as well as this letter, was and remains purposefully directed to your good self. We did so because you indicated your personal involvement in the matter.
4. We maintain that our letters raise serious concerns, not only in both matters in which we act for the complainants, but also now point to either the SAPS acting

June 2024

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Dr D.J. Hermann, Mr W.G. Human, Mr C.M. Kriel and Dr R. Pretorius. • **Company Secretary:** Mr W.A. Vogel.  
**Registration number:** 2005/042861/08 • **NGO number:** 054 - 590

*mala fide* or, as it appears, colluding with the prosecution, for reasons that will later become apparent. We draw this inference from the telltale signs of a lack of respect for the victims of these crimes and a lack of transparency in sidestepping the questions detailed in our preceding correspondence.

5. We have voiced our concerns that powerful people are either being protected or will inevitably remain shielded from prosecutorial accountability, while the foot soldiers take the blame.
6. We cannot allow our clients' rights to be flouted where there appears to be a deliberate narrative, clouded in a veil of secrecy, used to avoid accountability, while the prosecution and the defence appear to seek to circumvent our clients' right to make submissions for the purposes of open court processes.
7. We must remind your office that our clients are not seeking special treatment or any kind of privilege, but rather to exercise their rights as established in section 105A of the Criminal Procedure Act of 1977. The exercise of this right is central to the NPA's stated goal of being victim focused.
8. However, it is noteworthy that this letter follows yet another last-minute attempt by the SAPS to pressure our client and/or her family into attending court the following day, ostensibly so that the prosecutors could consult with them and get them to sign documents.
9. We are unaware if the most recent events preceding the appearance on 7 July 2026 are known to you.

10. Because of the urgency of what was conveyed to us, we deemed it necessary to share with Adv Gcweka, via WhatsApp, the communication from SAPS to our client and her family regarding the purported conduct of the prosecutors for the appearance on 7 July 2026 and their intentions, which, if true, we reiterate appears to indicate a deliberate intention to circumvent our client's rights.
11. Due to the urgency of this matter, our Mr Leask relied on sending an urgent WhatsApp communication to your Adv Gcweka, at 10:46am on 7 July 2026.
12. For ease of reference, we repeat the contents of the message, which we trust speaks directly to the recent developments as conveyed to us.

*"...Resulting from the actions of the investigators in Mpophomeni CAS 9/12/2023 we are led to believe that there are deliberate steps underway to circumvent the rights of our client, the wife of the deceased, also the complainant, regarding a purported "Plea agreement" with the accused persons in the matter.*

*We are aware that our client has been described as "a problem" and consequently investigators have reached out to other family members seeking their cooperation to "sign documents because Pretty is a problem". Notably the other family members recruited to sign documentation with the prosecutors were also told not to disclose anything to our client.*

*We maintain that there exists no excuse or confusion regarding our*

*“brief” in this matter and our expressed concerns are adequately raised in our letter of 27 May 2026.*

*Regretfully this letter remains to be answered.*

*We reiterate that our client as do we remain uninformed and at a deliberate disadvantage of exercising her right to be properly informed and take advice on her participation in a “Plea Agreement” or submissions to be made.*

*In the absence of due process by the prosecutors, we unequivocally object to the purported “plea agreement”*

*Unless otherwise informed we must accept that the suggested proceedings for today conflict with the NDPP’s victim focused strategy and the Code of Conduct for prosecutors.*

*I again submit herewith our unanswered letter.*

*Kindly acknowledge receipt as we anticipate your urgent response.*

*Formal correspondence to management will follow.*

13. Receipt of this message was neither acknowledged, nor was any response received.
14. We urge you to respond to the numerous issues and concerns that have been brought to your attention. Should you fail to do so, we will have no choice but to conclude that you condone the actions of the SAPS and the prosecutors, leaving

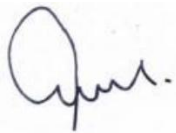
us with no option but to seek a remedy elsewhere.

15. It defies belief that the NPA and the SAPS would deny a grieving widow, whose husband was assassinated in their family home in the presence of his children, the opportunity to participate in the course of justice. The ineluctable inference is that this is a deliberate attempt to pursue a process that is plainly not in the interests of justice.

16. We have conveyed our client's concerns, as well as our own, to your good self, and cannot help but be reminded of the maxim *quis custodiet ipsos custodes*.

17. We anticipate your response soon.

Yours sincerely



**ADV. GERRIE C NEL**

**HEAD: PRIVATE PROSECUTIONS UNIT**

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