



13 December 2024

LPC REFERS ALLEGATIONS FOR INVESTIGATION BY THE OMBUD

The Legal Practice Council (LPC) reaffirms its commitment to accountability, fairness, and the integrity of the legal profession. To this end, the LPC has resolved to refer allegations, arising from a report by the former Senior Manager of Risk and Compliance, concerning the conduct of the Executive Officer (EO) and the Northern Cape Director to the Legal Services Ombud, Judge Desai, for an independent investigation.

Judge Desai has confirmed his willingness to lead the investigation. The Council, by majority decision, resolved to entrust the Ombud with the authority to assess the situation and make interim recommendations, including precautionary measures, should the need arise during the investigation.

The Ombud has indicated that he intends to assign an internal team to conduct the investigation, with the option to involve external forensic experts if necessary. The expected timeframe for the investigation will be determined by the Ombud once his office has reviewed the relevant documentation.

This decision underscores the LPC's dedication to a transparent and impartial process. By referring the matter to the Ombud, the LPC ensures that the investigation proceeds independently and in the best interests of the legal profession and the public.

The LPC calls on all stakeholders to respect the process and allow the investigation to unfold without interference. This measured approach reflects the LPC's commitment to upholding the highest standards of governance and professional accountability.

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Chairperson of the LPC

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