



## **MEDIA RELEASE**

**ATT: ALL NEWS EDITORS**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**DATE: 20 APRIL 2017**

### **OFFICE OF THE MILITARY OMBUD AND PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION SIGN A MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING.**

The Office of the Military Ombud and the Public Service Commission (PSC) today, marked a historic day as the two institutions signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to provide for a framework for cooperation and collaboration with the view to sharing information and enhancing the effectiveness and the efficiency of the two institutions.

The memorandum of understanding between the two institutions will pave a way for collaboration and cooperation in respect of complaints falling within both parties mandate.

Military Ombud retired Lt Gen Temba Matanzima says he is excited with the agreement as these two institutions play an integral part when it comes to the promotion of good governance, professional and ethical leadership across the society.

"We are positive that this cooperation will go a long way in restoring the dignity of those who find themselves seeking help from these two Offices. We are committed to serve our stakeholders with dignity and pride," said Matanzima.

The Chairperson of the PSC, Adv Richard Sizani mentioned that in the recent cabinet Lekgotla the need for the improvement of efficiency, effectiveness and coordination was emphasized. He was of the view that the MoU between these two institutions is a step towards realizing this objective. He further mentioned that there are many benefits to this MoU, it not only formalizes the relationship between the PSC and the Office of the Military Ombud, but provides for the sharing of practical experiences and common areas of interests with the aim of enhancing the capacity of both institutions, as well as the referral of complaints.

The Public Service Commission and the Office of the Military Ombud acknowledge that the functions of the two institutions complement each other to some extent. In recognising the synergy between them, the PSC and the Office of Military Ombud identified the following areas of collaboration:

- Collaboration and cooperation in respect of complaints falling within either Party's mandate;
- Exchange of information on personnel and public administration practices; and
- Any other areas of interest as may be identified from time to time

The Office of the Military Ombud was established in terms of the Military Ombud Act, Act 4 of 2012 to investigate complaints lodged in writing by a member and former members of South African National Defence Force (SANDF) regarding their conditions of service. The Office also investigates complaints brought by members of the public against SANDF member's personal conduct in public.

The PSC is a Chapter 10 Institution which derives its mandate from Section 195 of the Constitution.

**Ends**

**Issued jointly by the Public Service Commission and the Office of the Military Ombud**

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