



September 26, 2022

MEDIA STATEMENT  
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
26 SEPTEMBER 2022

SIU WELCOMES THE APPEARANCE OF FOUR MEMBERS OF SANDF AT THE MILITARY COURT ON ALLEGATIONS OF R273 MILLION PPE FRAUD AND CORRUPTION.

The Special Investigating Unit (SIU) welcomes the appearance of four members of the South African National Defence Force (SANDF) at the military court on allegations of personal protective equipment (PPE) fraud and corruption of over R273 million.

Lieutenant Dimakatso Modise, Lieutenant Colonel Vivian Seadimo Peu, Captain Mbomolelo Avroline Tshikosi and Leading Seaman Suzen Jiane appeared before the Military Court on Friday, 23 September 2022, on charges of fraud and corruption related to the procurement of PPE items such as masks and gloves for members of the SANDF during the height of the Covid-19 pandemic.

The court appearance of Modise, Peu, Tshikosi and Jiane comes after an SIU investigation, which revealed that SANDF irregularly awarded PPE contracts to five companies to the sum of R273 500 000 between May and August 2020.

Evidence from the SIU probe shows that the list of service providers was predetermined and some of the PPE items were delivered before approval, thus deviating from normal supply chain management processes. Furthermore, the SIU investigation revealed that the procurement process followed by the SANDF to procure PPE related items was not fair,

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(College Square), Bloemfontein | Mpumalanga: 25 Samora Machel Drive, Mbombela Centre, 4th floor, Mbombela, 1200 | Limpopo: Ground Floor,  
Moolman 500 Building, 31 Mark Street, Polokwane, 0070 | Western Cape: 1<sup>st</sup> Floor, Bytes Technology Building Raapenberg Road Golf Park, Pinelands, 7405  
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The State's preferred and trusted anti-corruption forensic investigation and litigation agency

transparent, equitable, competitive, or cost effective and thus contravened the provisions of Section 217(1) of the Constitution.

The SIU was mandated through the issuance of Proclamation No. R. 23 of 2020, to investigate the affairs of all State institutions in respect of the procurement or contracting for goods, works and services, during, or in respect of the National State of Disaster, by or on behalf of State institutions.

The court appearance of Modise, Peu, Tshikosi and Jiane is a continuation of the implementation of the SIU investigation outcomes and consequence management to recover assets and financial losses suffered by State institutions and to prevent further losses, and to hold them accountable.

The SIU will institute a civil action in the Special Tribunal to review and set aside the contracts, and to recover financial losses suffered by the State and SANDF as result of corruption and negligence. In line with the Special Investigating Units and Special Tribunals Act 74 of 1996, evidence pointing to criminal conduct is referred to the National Prosecuting Authority for further action.

Fraud and corruption allegations may be reported via the following platforms:  
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#### **ABOUT THE SIU:**

*The SIU is an independent statutory body with a primary mandate to investigate allegations of corruption, malpractice and maladministration in the affairs of government departments,*

*municipalities and State Owned Entities, and to recover financial losses suffered by State institutions. The SIU was established in terms of the Special Investigating Units and Special Tribunal Act, Act No 74 of 1996 (SIU Act).*

*The SIU has powers to subpoena witnesses, bank statements and cellphone records, search, seize evidence and interrogate witnesses under oath. The SIU can take civil action to correct any wrongdoing it uncovers in its investigations.*

*Where criminal conduct is uncovered during investigations, the SIU will bring the matter to the attention of its partners Hawks in the South African Police Service (SAPS), as well as the National Prosecuting Authority (NPA)*