



MUNICIPAL EMPLOYEES & CIVIL SERVANTS UNION

403, 4th floor, Bram Fischer Towers, 20 Albert Street, Marshalltown,
Jhb, Gauteng

www.mecsu.org

Email: admin@mecsu.org

Tel: +27 11 568 6750/ 083 979 4528

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PRESS RELEASE

MECSU REACTION TO THE ADMINISTRATIVE DECISION TAKEN BY THE CITY OF EKURHULENI MUNICIPALITY TO PLACE ON PRECAUTIONARY SUSPENSION ITS SENIOR OFFICIAL, DIVISIONAL HEAD: EMPLOYEE RELATIONS, MR XOLANI PRINCE NCIZA PENDING INVESTIGATION OF SERIOUS ALLEGATIONS OF HIS FAKE QUALIFICATIONS TO GET EMPLOYMENT IN THE MUNICIPALITY.

We welcome the municipality's administrative decision to place on precautionary suspension its senior official, Divisional Head: Employee Relations Mr. Xolani Prince Nciza pending investigation of serious allegations of his fake qualifications which he submitted along with his curriculum vitae to get employment to this position and thus earn close to R2million from the municipality annum.

The importance of placing a senior official on suspension is for the integrity of the investigation than anything, as the continued presence of an employee at work may jeopardise the investigation. We view this decision as rational and fair one owing to the seriousness of alleged conduct, the seniority, authority and the position of trust Mr. Nciza holds. This will afford him an opportunity to focus on these serious allegations and to come clean.

The suspension is, however, long overdue given the history of these allegations. The long overdue suspension may well have to do with what we have been reliably informed of the interference by certain individual political office bearers interfering with administrative processes of the municipality in an endeavour to influence administrative authorities to absolve Mr. Nciza from being held to account for these serious allegations. We consider the conduct of such individual political office bearers

exceedingly unfortunate and regrettably as it seems to escape their minds that faking qualifications is a serious problem in our country.

We believe that the municipality will conduct a thorough investigation to get to the root cause of these allegations, and to uncover all related role players, in the committing of such misconduct.

While we respect that this is matter between the municipality and its suspended employee, as a trade union our duty is than anything, to *inter alia*, hold management to account to policies of relevance including the code of conduct of the municipality.

We are confident that the administrative authority will respect and act on the investigative recommendations.

Issued by:

MECSU Secretariat

For enquiries

Contact: 011 568 6750/ 083 979 4528/ 073 278 7965

Email: admin@mecsus.org