



188, 14th Road, Noordwyk, Midrand, 1685  
Private Bag X10, Marshalltown, 2107  
**Tel:** +27 10 493 2500 (Switchboard)  
**E-mail:** [enquiries@judiciary.org.za](mailto:enquiries@judiciary.org.za)  
[www.judiciary.org.za](http://www.judiciary.org.za)

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## **Media Statement – Impersonation of Judge President Dunstan Mlambo: Judge President of the Gauteng Division of the High Court**

**Note:** *Please attribute this statement solely to the Office of the Chief Justice (OCJ) as Government Department and not the Chief Justice of the Republic of South Africa or the Judiciary.*

It has come to the attention of the Office of the Chief Justice (OCJ) that there is an individual impersonating the Judge President Dunstan Mlambo, Judge President of the Gauteng Division of the High Court.

According to the information available to the OCJ, the individual/s sent a WhatsApp messages purporting to be Judge President Mlambo using a profile picture of his likeness. The mobile numbers from which the message came are 074 624 8917, 067 712 4674 and 060 200 8121 and are registered on the WhatsApp application as belonging to 'Maphisa Tibane'.

The public is warned not to fall prey to this impersonator and need to be aware that impersonating a Judicial Officer is a criminal offence. The matter has already been reported to the South African Police Service.

Members of the public and media are requested to contact the OCJ to verify the authenticity of any communication, directive, article, or social media post that purports to be that of a Judge.

**Ends.**

### **Media enquiries:**

Email: [mediaenquiries@judiciary.org.za](mailto:mediaenquiries@judiciary.org.za)

***Issued by the Office of the Chief Justice***

