



MINISTRY
PUBLIC SERVICE AND ADMINISTRATION
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

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Letter to all Ministers

Dear Colleague

DISCIPLINE: PUBLIC SERVANTS WHO UNLAWFULLY RECEIVED SOCIAL GRANTS

As you are aware, the above-mentioned matter has been ongoing for some time.

In terms of an arrangement between the Social Security Agency of South Africa (SASSA), the Special Investigating Unit (SIU) and the DPSA, the files of public servants whose (criminal) cases have been dealt with by the courts have been submitted to provinces and departments to enable them to take formal disciplinary action against these employees. The cases are the so-called grade 3 cases where employees who have permanent positions in the public service have deliberately misrepresented their positions so as to obtain social grants. As these cases emerge from the court system, they are forwarded by the SIU to the relevant national departments via the DPSA and to the relevant provincial departments via the Premiers' offices.

The grade 3 cases total approximately 3 000 cases. Another ± 9 000 cases have been classified as grade 2 cases. These are cases where the persons legitimately received social grants but then obtained work in the public service. They however failed to cancel the social grants.

To bring closure to this matter, it is necessary that the grade 2 cases be dealt with as a matter of priority. In correspondence to Premiers (the majority of cases are in provinces), I proposed that the grade 2 cases be dealt with through the progressive (informal) disciplinary process. Responses received (two

I know that it cannot be prescribed to you how your province should deal with these matters, but it would assist if provinces and departments, at least in terms of the approach to be adopted in dealing with the 12 000 cases (3 000 grade 3 cases and 9 000 grade 2 cases) could move in unison. On sanction there is clearly going to be inconsistencies that cannot be prevented. It is not incumbent upon me or to the DPSA to prescribe the sanction that should be imposed. I am, however, aware that in certain provinces final warnings have been given as outcomes in grade 3 cases.

Your response to the approach that you support with regard to the grade 2 cases will be appreciated.

Kind regards

Geraldine G. Fraser-Moleketi
MS G J FRASER-MOLEKETI
MINISTER

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