

## correctional services

Department: Correctional Services **REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA** 

## **MEDIA STATEMENT**

12 February 2024

## INMATE ESCAPES FROM MAMELODI HOSPITAL

The Department of Correctional Services, working with other law enforcement agencies, is conducting a widespread search operation to locate and apprehend offender Clatta Gumbo who escaped on Monday, 12 February 2024 from the grounds of Mamelodi Regional Hospital.

Admitted as an offender on 28 August 2018, Gumbo is serving a life sentence for rape, kidnapping and assault at Baviaanspoort Correctional Centre in Tshwane. He was escorted to the hospital for a consultation with a Dietician when he attacked the guarding official, disarmed him and escaped from the hospital premises.

An immediate action has been taken to initiate a thorough investigation into the circumstances surrounding the escape.

Correctional Services is appealing to anyone with information regarding the whereabouts of the escapee to contact a nearest correctional facility or a police station. Crucially, we encourage members of the public to remain vigilant and report any suspicious activity to law enforcement authorities.

Public safety is our utmost priority and every effort is being made to effect a rearrest of Gumbo.

