

## **MEDIA STATEMENT**

25 July 2024

## PAROLE PLACEMENT OF MARIUS VAN DER WESTHUIZEN TO BE REVIEWED

The Department of Correctional Services has studied the report of the Correctional Supervision and Parole Board (CSPB) on the parole placement of Marius van der Westhuizen and has directed that it be reviewed.

This decision implies that the previously scheduled parole placement date of 31 July 2024 is now irrelevant as a review process is to be initiated following Section 77(1) of the Correctional Services Act, 111 of 1998. According to this section, a Correctional Supervision and Parole Review Board (CSPRB) will be constituted by members drawn from the National Council of Correctional Services and it is to be chaired by a Judge.

The CSPRB is an empowered structure authorized to review the decisions of the CSPB if a submission is made by the Minister of Correctional Services, the Commissioner of Correctional Services, or the Inspecting Judge."

The Department believes that it is fair and in the interest of justice to scrutinize the process followed and the assessment reports in the profile of Marius van der Westhuizen.

As mandated by Section 75(8) of the Correctional Services Act, referring this matter for a review by the Correctional Supervision and Parole Review Board suspends any date of placement for inmate van der Westhuizen.

## **ENDS**

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