



correctional services

Department:
Correctional Services
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

MEDIA STATEMENT

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Correctional Services Dismisses False Claims of Torture Involving Inmate Fisokuhle Ntuli

The Department of Correctional Services (DCS) rejects, with the contempt it deserves, the unfounded and misleading allegations of torture made by inmate Fisokuhle Ntuli in court. These claims are baseless and appear to be part of a growing trend by inmates to manipulate the system and avoid accountability for their actions.

On 8 July 2025, during a search operation led by the National Commissioner, Makgothi Samuel Thobakgale, inmate Fisokuhle Ntuli was found in possession of a mobile phone, an item strictly prohibited within correctional facilities. A security official, present during the search, questioned the inmate about the device, to which he admitted ownership and confirmed usage.

The search was conducted in a professional and orderly manner, and at no point was the inmate subjected to torture or any form of ill-treatment. The offender fully complied with officials throughout the process. The confiscated mobile phone was handed over to the South African Police Service (SAPS) for forensic downloading and further investigation. Based on the offender's conduct and associated risk profile, he was reclassified and subsequently transferred to the C-Max facility, in line with existing correctional procedures.

DCS has observed a recurring narrative where offenders resort to false allegations in an attempt to evade disciplinary consequences or to secure transfers to different centres. Correctional Services is governed by strict Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) and a clear legislative framework that promotes humane treatment, rehabilitation, and secure custody. The Department remains committed to upholding these values and stands ready to provide a full account of its operations when required.

Being in possession of a mobile phone inside a correctional facility constitutes a serious violation. It is unacceptable for any offender to deflect blame by concocting stories in an attempt to escape consequences. Inmates are expected to respect the code of conduct and behave in a manner befitting their rehabilitation journey.

Attempts to weaponise human rights discourse to shield oneself from the consequences of wrongdoing is not only dishonest, but an insult to the very principles of justice and fairness. Correctional Services will not be deterred in its duty to ensure discipline, safety, and the upholding of the rule of law within its facilities.

ENDS

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