



## **MEDIA RELEASE**

**28 May 2013**

### **SEAT OF THE MARIKANA COMMISSION IS MOVED TO CENTURION**

The Chairman of the Marikana Commission of Inquiry, retired Judge Ian Gordon Farlam, announced the moving of the seat of the Commission from Rustenburg to Centurion.

#### **Background**

On 01 March 2013 Maluleke Msimang & Associates, acting for approximately 300 victims of the Marikana tragedy, lodged an application with the Commission to relocate the seat of the Commission from Rustenburg to Pretoria. The application was supported by the Socio-Economic Rights Institute (SERI) acting for the families of more than 30 deceased miners. The reasons given include the financial burden as a result of daily travel and daily accommodation as well as other logistical costs including time spent on the road.

On 02 April 2013, lawyers representing the Administrator of the Bapo ba Mogale Traditional Community and the local municipalities filed an opposing affidavit to have the Commission continue its work in Rustenburg. Some of the reasons given are that the relocation of the Commission will deny Traditional Mining Communities in the North West Province access to justice.

Judge Farlam together with the Minister of Justice and Constitutional Development, Mr Jeff Radebe agreed that further input was required from participants at the Commission in response to the matters raised by those objecting. Parties were given an opportunity to present their arguments at the Commission.

#### **Judge's Ruling**

"I am satisfied that the applicants have established reasonable grounds justifying the move sought. The order which I am making is made in consultation with the Minister of Justice and Constitutional Development, who agrees therewith," says Judge Farlam.

"The seat of the Commission is moved to Corner Rabie and Cantonment Street, City of Tshwane Municipal Offices in Centurion, Gauteng. The sittings of the Commission will accordingly resume on Tuesday 04 June 2013 at 10:00," remarked Judge Farlam.

Ends...

Issued by the Marikana Commission of Inquiry

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