



CITY OF JOHANNESBURG

Councillor Dr. Mgcini Tshwaku
Member of the Mayoral Committee
Department of Public Safety

City of Johannesburg Department of Public Safety Mourns the Passing of Mr David Tembe

It is with profound sadness that the City of Johannesburg Department of Public Safety announces the passing of Mr David Tembe, Strategic Advisor to the Member of the Mayoral Committee (MMC) for Public Safety, Dr Mgcini Tshwaku.

Mr Tembe, the former Chief of the Johannesburg Metropolitan Police Department (JMPD) and former MMC for Public Safety, was found unresponsive at his private residence yesterday.

Emergency services responded promptly, but he was sadly declared deceased at the scene. A post-mortem examination will be conducted to establish the exact cause of death. Over a distinguished career spanning more than four decades, Mr Tembe served the residents of Johannesburg with exceptional dedication and integrity. He began his journey in 1981 as a paramedic with Johannesburg Emergency Medical Services, rose through the ranks to be appointed JMPD Chief in 2017, and later served as MMC for Public Safety from 2021 to 2023. Most recently, he continued to contribute his vast experience and expertise as Strategic Advisor to the current MMC, Dr Mgcini Tshwaku. Renowned for his community-centred approach to policing, his unwavering commitment to the welfare of officers, and his relentless pursuit of safer streets, Mr Tembe leaves an enduring legacy in the City's ongoing fight against crime.

MMC for Public Safety, Dr Mgcini Tshwaku, and the entire public safety cluster extend their deepest condolences to Mr Tembe's family, friends, and former colleagues during this difficult time. The Department of Public Safety stands united in grief and in heartfelt gratitude for Mr David Tembe's lifelong service to the people of this city.

Funeral and memorial arrangements will be announced in due course. May his soul rest in eternal peace.

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