



INTERNET ARTICLE

Advocate Terry Motau to investigate fraud and corruption in the Department and Water Boards

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High ranking South African Advocate Terry Motau SC has been appointed to lead a team of lawyers to review all fraud, corruption and irregular expenditure reports at the Department of Water and Sanitation and to ensure that all recommendations are fully implemented.

Advocate Motau was appointed by Minister Lindiwe Sisulu following a report to the Minister that more than R16 Billion worth of projects have been issued irregularly, including blanket corruption and fraud by officials, to an extent of awarding tenders to themselves and close relatives.

This comes as Minister Sisulu remains resolute to root out all forms of corruption within the Department and its entities.

“I have directed Advocate Motau and a team that he is going to be working with that I want all reports on fraud, corruption and irregular expenditure of the Department and all Water Boards to be reviewed and all recommendations implemented. Officials and service providers involved in corruption must face the consequences” Sisulu said.

Minister Sisulu indicated that there is lack of consequence management in the Department, and as a result many officials implicated in fraud and corruption remain at work or are suspended with pay.

She also revealed during a media briefing held on 13 May 2020 at Rand Water Head Offices that for the period of 01 April 2012 to 31 September 2019, a total number of 249 reported cases have been investigated. 139 of the cases were found to be true and were referred for disciplinary action while 110 of them were found to be untrue.

Minister Sisulu said that of the 139 disciplinary cases, 86 officials were found guilty while 14 officials were not found guilty. She further said that 24 officials have resigned as a result.

“We believe that Advocate Motau has the necessary experience and will lead a team of professionals to make sure that in the water sector there is consequence management and value for money,” Sisulu said.

Motau was involved in a number of high-profile investigations with the recent one being the “Great Bank Heist” which focused on corruption and looting at VBS Bank in Limpopo.

Lebogang Maseko

