



Private Security Industry
Regulatory Authority
420 Witch-Hazel Avenue, Block B Eco Glades 2 Office Park Highveld Ext 10
Tel. 086 10 (PSiRA) 77472
Int. +27 12 337 5500
Fax no.: 086 242 7180 / 086 246 7750
Email: info@psira.co.za
Website: www.psira.co.za

MEDIA STATEMENT

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

PRIVATE SECURITY TOPS THE AGENDA AT THE CAMPUS SAFETY PRE-SUMMIT 2017

11 July 2017- The Director of PSiRA, Mr Manabela Chauke, addressed the delegates of the School and Campus pre-Safety Summit on the Role of Private Security at the schools and Campuses of Higher Learning Institutions held at the University of Western Cape.

The pre-summit attended by all representatives of students, academics, and relevant stakeholders from universities in South Africa, serves as a catalyst discussion document that will be presented in a summit starting Wednesday, 12 July 2017.

In his address, the focus was on the Compliance and Regulation governing the private security industry in the light of incidents we have seen during the #FeesMustFall mass action and the lessons learnt during the protests.

He highlighted that as the Regulatory Authority their priority was to ensure that all students and learners' rights were protected. He further stressed that, "it was regrettable that during the #FeesMustFall protests, some private security companies ended up being involved in crowd control which is not their mandate. As the Regulator, we would like to caution the consumers of private security (institutions of Higher Learning) to ensure that private security on campuses focuses on protecting the assets of the institutions and that public order be completely left for SAPS to handle."

In his closing remarks he said, 'going forward, we have introduced a new training module for Security Officers that will address human rights violation and further ensure that they are well equipped to execute their responsibilities professionally and without compromising their safety and that of their clients or public in general.'

Mr Chauke also assured delegates that the private security service providers have and understand the Code of Conduct which guides them.

For further enquiries, please contact Ms Siziwe Zuma on 079 519 2688/Siziwe.Zuma@psira.co.za

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