



**The Office of the Official Opposition  
Free State Provincial Legislature**

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<b>Date:</b>	<b>19 July 2021</b>
<b>To:</b>	<b>Sisi Ntombela MPL The Premier Free State Province</b>
<b>Cc:</b>	<b>Mandisa Makesini MPL Leader of the Economic Freedom Fighters Free State Legislature</b>
<b>Cc:</b>	<b>Armand Cloete MPL Leader of the Freedom Front Plus Free State Legislature</b>
<b>From:</b>	<b>Roy Jankielsohn MPL Leader of the Opposition Free State Legislature</b>
<b>Subject:</b>	<b>Preparedness of Free State for potential unrest</b>

Dear Hon Premier,

In light of the unrest in Kwa-Zulu Natal and Gauteng witnessed over the past week, we would like to request an urgent meeting between the Premier, relevant law enforcement and leaders from the political parties represented in the Free State Legislature on the state of preparedness of the Free State province. Political leaders are receiving requests for information on the preparedness of the Free State from residents of the province. In order to give accurate information through to them it is important that we receive a briefing from the relevant authorities on what plans are in place to curb any potential threats of violence should unrest spill over into the province.

This is especially important when considering that the former Premier Ace Magashule is scheduled to appear before the Bloemfontein High Court on the 19 August 2021 to face criminal charges related to the Asbestos Housing Contracts, which might have the potential to prompt civil disobedience.

Furthermore, as we witnessed during the last appearances of Mr Magashule in the Bloemfontein Magistrates Court, these types of activities have the potential to become super spreader events due to the lack of adherence to Covid-19 protocols by the supporters

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and followers of Mr Magashule. In light of this, it is important that plans are put in place ahead of time to ensure that the Free State does not become a victim to a further spread of the virus.

May we kindly request that the Premier consider this request against the background of the many Free Staters who have already had their lives and livelihoods impacted upon by the Covid-19 pandemic and who require political consolation.

As the collective political leadership in government and opposition, we are required to inform residents of the province on the state of preparedness for potential crises to ensure that they are prepared for any eventualities and avoid unnecessary panic.

The lack of information will force residents to make their own arrangements to protect their communities and businesses from possible civil unrest that has led to looting and loss of lives in other provinces.

Your favourable consideration in this regard will be appreciated.

Yours truly,

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