



09 February 2026

Hon. A. T. Didiza
Speaker of the National Assembly
Houses of Parliament
CAPE TOWN

By e-mail

**RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN SECRETARY TO PARLIAMENT AND PUBLIC
PROTECTOR**

Dear Madam Speaker,

You will be aware that, along with sending you and the Joint Committee the documents related to the Secretary to Parliament's salary, we also requested the Public Protector to investigate the matter.

Now, a person's private affairs are usually of no concern to me, nor should it be to the public in most instances. However, where the risk of prejudice or a conflict of interests exists, this must be exposed and then it does indeed become a matter of public interest.

I have been made aware of allegations from several sources that the Public Protector and Secretary to Parliament are in a romantic relationship and possibly even a more formal relationship, i.e. marriage. There is no way for me to establish this. However, I would like to suggest that you please take the following steps in verifying the facts:

1. A formal letter from yourself to the Minister of Home Affairs requesting confirmation or not of such a marriage;
2. Confirmation or not whether Mr George ever declared to the Executive Authority of Parliament that such a relationship exists.

Although there is no formal process of declaring such a relationship, I submit to you that it is indeed a matter of ethics for the Secretary to declare this relationship if it exists, since the Public Protector has already produced at least one report on his appointment. There subsequently, respectfully, in my view also rests an onus on you to establish the facts should such an allegation be put before you.

I would therefore seek your kind assistance in this matter in order to protect not only the integrity of Parliament, but also the office of a State Institution Supporting Constitutional Democracy (Chapter 9 institution) whose head is appointed by the National Assembly.

Sincerely,

Mr G Michalakis MP
Chief Whip of the Democratic Alliance