



PARLIAMENT
OF THE REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

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09 March 2026

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

CC: Hon. D. E. Mpapane
Chairperson of the Committee on the Presidency
Houses of Parliament
CAPE TOWN

By e-mail

Dear Madam Speaker,

RE: REQUEST FOR REFERRAL TO THE COMMITTEE ON THE PRESIDENCY

With reference to the above matter.

You will no doubt recall that last year, the Joint Committee on Ethics and Members' Interest found the Deputy President, Mr Paul Mashatile MP, guilty of failing to disclose that a diamond was gifted to his wife by one Mr Louis Liebenberg in 2023, levying a sanction of a R10,000.00 fine as a result.

We understand that the Deputy President has since confirmed that the diamond was handed over to the National Prosecuting Authority (NPA).

The report from the committee, though welcome, did not address a number of subsequent questions arising from this matter; including the underlying reason for the gift, what the Deputy President may have received in return, the value of the diamond, its origins, and whether any other gifts were presented by Mr Liebenberg to either the Deputy President or his wife, whether prior to the diamond, or after.

Indeed, the failure to disclose such a valuable gift (though its official appraisal and certification remain undisclosed, notwithstanding that the Deputy President undertook to have the same valued) begs the question as to whether the Deputy President has omitted any other disclosures of the same or a similar nature.

Furthermore, considering the serious criminal charges faced by Mr Liebenberg, it is imperative that the Deputy President, as the second-highest ranking member of the Executive and the Leader of Government Business, urgently clarifies the basis, nature, past and current status of his relationship with the accused.

It is deeply troubling for South Africans that the Deputy President has, to date, not taken them into his confidence to explain the nature of his relationship with an alleged diamond scheme fraudster – a charge which, in and of itself, raises questions surrounding the origin and legality of the diamond.

We believe that it would be in the Deputy President's best interests to present a full and transparent account of these matters, before the newly established Committee on the Presidency ("**the Committee**"), so that they may finally be put to rest.

Accordingly, we respectfully request that you refer this matter to the Committee for discussion, in terms of Rule 252F(4) of the National Assembly Rules, including the appearance of the Deputy President, at your earliest convenience; failing which, we will bring this request to the House in the form of a motion, for its determination under the same rule.

We look forward to your response.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'G. Michalakis', written over a horizontal line.

Mr G Michalakis MP
Chief Whip of the Democratic Alliance