

Via email: ministry@justice.gov.za; sarela@justice.gov.za

12 August 2019

The Honourable Minister Lamola
Department of Justice
Pretoria, Gauteng

Dear Minister Lamola

Re: SIU Sexual Harassment Matters

We wrote to your good office on the 25th of June 2019 and further approached your office on the 2nd of August 2019 where we were attended to by Mr. Sarele who advised us that you were out of the country on an official state business. Your office through Mr. Sarele forwarded our letter to the SIU.

As you will note in the content of the letter, it's purpose was not for it to be sent to the SIU but for you as an elected representative of the people of South Africa to engage with the contents of the letter and to take appropriate action.

In the absence of a response from your office, coupled with a response from the SIU filled with litany of untruths and total, flagrant disregard of governance and rule of law; we therefore wish to pose the following questions to the Honourable Minister:

1. Does your office condone sexual harassment?
2. Is your office aware of the sexual harassment, bullying, intimidation of women at the SIU at the hands of Adv. Mothibi, if so, when did the Minister become aware of such and what action has been taken to stem such behavior and conduct from one of the institutions charged with the responsibility of upholding good governance?
3. Is your office aware of the impending litigation against four (4) women employees and the associated legal costs incurred to date that runs into the millions in effort to rid SIU of these 4 women employees?
4. Is your office aware of the memorandum that was sent to the President of the Republic of South Africa and DG Madonsela detailing the grievance against Adv. Mothibi?
5. As an elected representative who took an oath of office to uphold, protect and defend the Constitution of the Republic of South Africa, are you fully aware that the SIU fails dismally on this score?

We trust and hope that you will respond to this letter and related outstanding matters no later than 16 August 2019; failure to do so would leave us no choice but to engage the matter through a public campaign.

Sincerely,


Brenda Madumise-Pajibo


Pinky Mgobozi

Wise 4 Afrika Directors
#FeministsAtWork


Onica Nonhlanhla Makwakwa


Sibongile Mthembu

The Wise Collective, dba Wise 4 Afrika, (WISE) is an advocacy organization that is driving **women inspired solutions** for **empowerment** and seeks to advance a feminist agenda to address gender inequalities. Inspired by and emerging from the movement of thousands of women who marched on August 1, 2018 to protest against gender based violence in South Africa, **we are determined in our resolve to address and arrest gender based violence and femicide (GBVF) wherever and whenever it exists.** Central to our mission is ensuring that women of South Africa can enjoy their constitutional right to safety.