

MEDIA RELEASE
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CDA upset with Mushwana's R7 million golden handshake

"Immoral. It is hard to describe the R7 million golden hand shake outgoing Public Protector, Lawrence Mushwana is to receive in any other terms," says Christian Democratic Alliance (CDA) deputy chair, Rev. Theunis Botha.

"According to the constitution, public protectors are appointed for a seven year term, and Mushwana knew what was up when he left his fat cat MP position to become Public Protector. He is now being redeployed as Human Rights chair, and now has this salary, dividends from the R7 million, and his parliamentary pension to support his needs.

"Apart from losing the so called Invume case in the High court recently, the Public Protector was also instructed in 2003 in the High Court to report on its findings in the State Theatre case – and then also missing the High Court's dead line.

"A complainant whose final finding is outstanding for more than 13 years has also recently reported the Public Protector with the UN Human Rights Council in Geneva and with Pres. Jacob Zuma's toll free system after all other avenues of getting closure failed.

"All in all, it does not seem as though Mushwana had been heading the Public Protector in such a way that any merits for such a golden hand shake could be justified, least of all when liquidations increased by 25,9 percent over the past eight months compared to the same period last year, and another more than 700 000 people lost their jobs."

CDA ontstoke oor Mushwana se R7 miljoen goue handdruk

"Immoreel. Dit is baie moeilik om die R7 miljoen goue handdruk wat die uittredende Openbare Beskermer, Lawrence Mushwana gaan kry, op enige ander wyse te beskerm," sê die ondervoorsitter van die Christen Demokratiese Alliansie (CDA), ds. Theunis Botha.

"In terme van die grondwet word Openbare Beskermers vir 'n sewe jaar termyn aangestel, en Mushwana was hiervan bewus toe hy sy gekussingde LP-skap verlaat het om die pos op te neem. Hy word nou as voorsitter van die Menseregtekommissie herontplooi, en sal nou daarmee saam sy parlementêre pensioen en die dividende op R7 miljoen beskikbaar hê om aan sy behoeftes te voldoen.

"Afgesien daarvan dat Mushwana as Openbare Beskermer onlangs die Invume-saak in die Hooggeregshof verloor het, is die Openbare Beskermer ook in 2003 in die Hooggeregshof gelas om 'n finale bevinding oor die Staatsteatersaak te maak, en boonop die Openbare Beskermer dit eers na die hof se sperdatum gedoen.

"'n Klaer wie se saak se finale bevinding reeds meer as 13 jaar uitstaande is, het hom onlangs op die VN se Menseregteraad in Genève en pres. Zuma se tolvrye klagtelyn beroep, na alle pogings om afsluiting te kry misluk het.

"Wanneer alles teen mekaar opgeweeg word, wil dit nie voorkom of Mushwana die kantoor van die Openbare Beskermer op so 'n wyse bestuur het dat so 'n groot goue handdruk geregverdig kan word nie. Dis veral bedenklik noudat likwidasies die afgelope agt maande met 25,9% toegeneem het vergeleke met die ooreenstemmende agt maande verlede jaar, en nog 770 000 mense hul werk die afgelope jaar verloor het."