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## **MEDIA STATEMENT**

**14 FEBRUARY 2019**

### **THREATS TO WITNESSES OF THE PIC COMMISSION**

The Commission has received an anonymous sms revealing death threats made to individuals who have come forward to give testimony before the Commission. The sms makes claims of death threats to key individuals who have agreed to testify before the Commission at the upcoming public hearings and those who have already given testimony. These threats cannot be taken lightly and to this end the Commission has reported the matter to the South African Police Services (SAPS).

The SAPS has commenced with urgent investigations of these threats in order to identify and take the necessary steps against the person(s) who have made these threats, as well as identifying the sender of these anonymous messages. The Commission cannot release the identity of those whose lives have been threatened as this matter is now with law enforcement and would not want to jeopardize the investigations.

These threats have had a negative impact on the willingness of witnesses to come forward. Anyone who receives similar threats must inform the Commission and law enforcement agencies will be contacted in order to adequately deal with such threats.

### **ISSUED BY THE PIC COMMISSION**

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