



10 October 2024

Media Statement:

COPE Demands Immediate Resignation of Premier Letsoha-Mathae

For immediate release:

The Congress of the People (COPE) is calling for the immediate resignation of Free State Premier Maqueen Letsoha-Mathae and her husband, Lawrence Mathae, Speaker of the Mangaung Metro municipality, following damning allegations of corruption.

Premier Letsoha-Mathae's continued presence in office undermines the integrity of our institutions and the public trust. COPE calls for an immediate and thorough investigation by law enforcement into these allegations and demands that the Premier step down from her position to allow for a transparent process.

COPE is in possession of a series of leaked messages and proof of payments from Letsoha-Mathae's one-time benefactor. The angry businessman reveals damning information about dealings the two were involved in, which suggest money laundering, racketeering and corruption.

The messages detail extensive financial transactions made to support Letsoha-Mathae and her family, including a staggering R4.5 million investment in projects linked to the Department of Roads and Transport and purchasing a luxury V 300 Class black car for the Mathae family.

In response to these revelations, concerned citizens have opened criminal cases at a Bloemfontein police station.

Additionally, COPE has organised a mass protest campaign to demand accountability and call for the resignation of the controversial Premier and the Mangaung Metro Speaker.

"The party cannot tolerate delays in prosecuting corruption, which is a heinous crime against the people of South Africa. Both must go," stated COPE Acting Provincial Chairperson Free State Nathane Makola.

"These serious allegations necessitate immediate action. They must resign, or their political party, the ANC, must remove them immediately. Otherwise, the so-called renewal project will be nothing but a predictable mockery. President Cyril Ramaphosa and his executive appointments are rife with ethically compromised individuals."

These allegations highlight the pervasive corruption and lack of accountability that plague our political landscape.

COPE believes that the people of the province deserve leaders who uphold the highest ethical standards, rather than individuals embroiled in questionable practices.

“The time for accountability is now. The people deserve better leadership, one that prioritises integrity over self-interest. We urge all citizens to join us in calling for change and to hold their leaders accountable,” concluded Makola.

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