

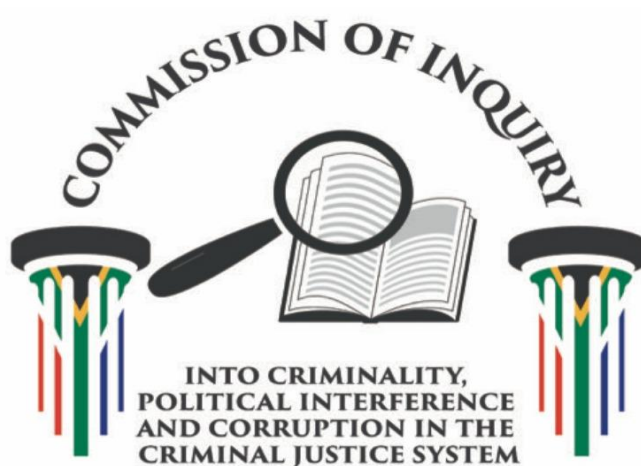
JUDICIAL COMMISSION OF INQUIRY INTO CRIMINALITY,
POLITICAL INTERFERENCE AND CORRUPTION IN THE
CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEM

HELD AT

BRIGITTE MABANDLA JUSTICE COLLEGE

27 JANUARY 2026

DAY 47



PROCEEDINGS HELD ON 26 JANUARY 2026

CHAIRPERSON: Good morning, Ms Hassim.

ADV HASSIM SC: Good morning, Chair. Good morning, Commissioners. The witness for today is Lt-Gen Senona.

CHAIRPERSON: May I please be given, please, please place the appearances on record. I think it must be taken as done already in respect of Ms Hassim. Who else is appearing?

ADV HASSIM SC: May I, on my side, acknowledge Mr
10 Sekekane, who is my learned friend. Thanks.

CHAIRPERSON: Yes, yes, yes. You are a junior for today who is appearing for the first time. Thank you and welcome. For purposes of the mic, or even there – actually, there is a mic there. Yes.

MS MAFISA: Yes. Thank you, Commissioners. My name is Palesa Mafisa, and I make an appearance with ...[INTERVENES].

CHAIRPERSON: Sorry, what?

MS MAFISA: Palesa Mafisa.

20 **CHAIRPERSON:** Mafisa?

MS MAFISA: Yes.

CHAIRPERSON: Thank you.

MS MAFISA: And I make an appearance Rudolph Baloyi, my instructing attorney, and Dumi Mushwana. Thank you.

CHAIRPERSON: Thank you very much. Thanks, Ms

Mafisa. Yes, Ms Hassim?

ADV HASSIM SC: Thank you, Chair. Okay. Our witness for today is Lt-Gen Senona. He is in attendance, but I believe that his counsel wishes to address the Commission before we begin. May I ask that she be granted permission?

MS MAFISA: I would like to, please. Yes.

CHAIRPERSON: Yes, Ms Mafisa.

MS MAFISA: Thank you, Commissioners. Commissioners,
10 firstly, we would like to state that the court order that was handed down, not the court order, but the commission's order that was handed down on the 26th of November last year stated that we ought to appear on the 27th of January. It seems as if the Commission might require more time with Maj-Gen Senona. However, we were only informed today that more time would be required with Maj-Gen Senona.

On Sunday, in passing, it was mentioned by the Commissioners' attorneys that Maj-Gen Senona would need to be here on the 27th and on the 28th. However, on the
20 26th, I must mention that I am led in this matter. So on the 26th of November, the last appearance, my senior and one of the evidence leaders decided that it would be best if we hold today's hearing on the 27th of January, but that was the only date that was agreed upon. We did not agree upon the 28th of January.

Unfortunately, Maj-Gen Senona has only made arrangements with his employer to be here for the 27th of January. If he is to continue, or rather, if his testimony is to continue for the 28th of January, he would require special leave. I am not sure if he would be able to do so on such short notice. He also needs to travel back after giving his testimony. So there are many things at play here, Commissioners, and I do not see how Maj-Gen Senona will be able to continue with his testimony on the 28th.

10 **CHAIRPERSON**: Yes, Ms Hassim?

ADV HASSIM SC: Sorry, Chair, may I respond to the request just to say two things? The ruling of this Commission in November was for the Maj-Gen to appear on the 27th of January. Section 6(1) of the Commission's Act makes it a requirement that a witness that is summoned to appear attends on the date of appearance and remains in attendance until excused by the Chairperson. There is no requirement to alert a witness as to how long he or she may be on the stand. In fact, the Commission's Act makes it an
20 offence to not remain in attendance without sufficient cause.

The reasons that I hear my learned friend offering for not being able to be in attendance tomorrow, in my view, and I submit, do not count as sufficient cause. One of the Maj-Gen's duties is to testify before this Commission. That

is what he is here to do, and to do so fully and frankly, and to do so in order to assist the work of the Commission. And so I oppose the request that the Maj-Gen is excused after one day.

CHAIRPERSON: Thank you, Ms Hassim. Do you wish to respond to that, Ms Mafisa?

MS MAFISA: Yes, I do, Commissioners.

CHAIRPERSON: Yes?

MS MAFISA: Commissioners, I do think it is only fair from
10 the Commission's side. I do understand the subpoena states that the Maj-Gen is expected to be present to give his testimony from the 27th until the testimony is complete, but I do think it is only fair that the Commission actually give some sort of an indication as to how many days the testimony, they foresee the testimony taking.

Maj-Gen Senona was present on the 26th of
November. He is present today, so he has met the subpoena. He satisfied the subpoena. His presence is here. I do not see the risk or the danger to merely cut his
20 testimony into two parts. We have seen with many other witnesses where the testimony is cut into two parts, and we can confirm that Maj-Gen Senona is more than willing to come back to the Commission to continue with his testimony.

I do think the aspect of him receiving an extension

of his leave should also be considered by the Commissioners, because if he were to continue on the 28th of January, we would be placing Maj-Gen Senona in a position of being derelict of his duties.

CHAIRPERSON: What is crucial in what you said, Ms Mafisa, is that you are aware that the General is supposed to be here today and beyond for as long as he is required to be here to continue with his testimony. That is very important. The General is obviously also aware of that. It
10 was his choice to make leave arrangements just for one day. He could, and I have not heard you suggest otherwise, he could have made those arrangements to go beyond today.

Why he chose to do it differently, I have no idea, and you have not explained to us why that is so. I will not be doing a back and forth. I am now at the stage where we as this Commission must make a ruling, and our ruling is going to be in accordance with what the Commission's Act provides and also in accordance with our direction for the
20 General's appearance, and he is required to be here until his testimony has been completed. What he does with his leave arrangements is his business, and he will have to attend to that. So the ruling is, General, you are required to be here today and tomorrow, and if tomorrow for whatever reason we reach a point at which we must

continue beyond tomorrow, you are required to be here beyond tomorrow as well. Do you understand that?

MAJ-GEN SENONA: Good morning, Commissioners. I do understand.

CHAIRPERSON: Good morning. I was still going to greet you properly, and I normally greet witnesses just before I administer the oath. Things started differently today, so I apologise for that. Good morning to you too. Thank you. You do understand, you say?

10 **MAJ-GEN SENONA**: I do understand, Commissioner.

CHAIRPERSON: Thank you very much, General. Thank you, Ms Mafisa.

MS MAFISA: Thank you, Commissioners.

CHAIRPERSON: Thank you.

ADV HASSIM SC: Thank you, Chair. If we could then proceed to administer the oath?

CHAIRPERSON: General, will you be swearing or affirming?

MAJ-GEN SENONA: I will be swearing, Commissioner.

20 **CHAIRPERSON**: Do you swear that the evidence you are going to give is the truth, the whole truth, nothing but the truth? If so, please raise your right hand and say, so help me God.

MAJ-GEN SENONA: So help me God.

CHAIRPERSON: Thank you, General.

LESETJA SENONA: (duly sworn states)

EXAMINATION BY ADV HASSIM SC: Thank you, Chair. Thank you, Maj-Gen. You have provided a statement to the Commission, together with annexures to support your statement. Can I just confirm that in File 1, that you have File 1 in front of you that is marked statement?

MAJ-GEN SENONA: Correct, Commissioners.

ADV HASSIM SC: Can you turn to the last page of the statement, in fact, page 33 to be precise? Is that your
10 signature?

MAJ-GEN SENONA: Correct, Commissioners.

ADV HASSIM SC: You confirm that the contents of the statement are true and correct?

MAJ-GEN SENONA: Correct, Commissioners.

ADV HASSIM SC: File 2 is the annexures that you have provided, is that correct?

MAJ-GEN SENONA: Correct, Commissioners.

ADV HASSIM SC: And can I just confirm that you have a certain additional files in front of you? There should be
20 three exhibit files. Do you have three exhibit files?

MAJ-GEN SENONA: I do have three exhibit files that I just received, Commissioners. Thank you.

ADV HASSIM SC: Thank you. Chair, I propose that I allow Maj-Gen Senona to provide his version as he has, you know, his oral version based on his written statement in full

with minimal interruption from me. Of course, there will be questions for clarification and so on as you provide your version from myself and from the Commissioners. But Maj-Gen, I would like to give you an opportunity to give us your full version before questioning begins. Thank you. You may begin with your statement.

MAJ-GEN SENONA: Thank you very much, Commissioners. My statement on the first page, it will talk to the contents of my statement. There will be an
10 introduction. The second one, it will be matters to be addressed. The third one, qualifications and service history. Functions of the DPCI is an abbreviation in full is Directorate for Priority Crime Investigations. Role as a Provincial Head, as well as successes that we decided to depict for the purpose of this Commission.

You will see number seven is the role as the Provincial Head of DPCI KZN, as well as those successes. The subpoena, preliminary submissions. Question one, on the subpoena infiltration. Question two, nature of
20 relationship with Mr Matlala. Question three, forwarding of disbarment letter. Question four, business relationship with Mr Matlala. Question five, Medicare tender/contract. Question six, message of 6 March 2025 (Lt-Gen Mkhwanazi). Question seven, forward of Esmael Malude Ramos Nangy's affidavit. Question eight, 24 April 2024,

screenshot to Mr Matlala. Number nine, question nine is contact details of the former Minister Bheki Cele, and number 10 is Port Shepstone cocaine theft. The last one, it will be the conclusion, Commissioners.

ADV HASSIM SC: Thank you, Maj-Gen. If you could begin at paragraph 6 of your statement?

MAJ-GEN SENONA: Thank you very much, Commissioners:

10 “I began my years within the South
African Police Services on 18 March
1988. I hold the following qualifications.
A certificate in criminal justice education
from the University of Virginia in the
United States of America, a certificate on
FBI national academic course of
instruction, a national diploma in police
administration from Technicon SA, a
BTEC honours in policing from Pretoria
Technicon, a doctorate of philosophy in
20 leadership honoris causa from Trinity
International Bible University, as well as
a doctorate in theology honoris causa
from the Good Shepherd College of
Religion.”

ADV HASSIM SC: Maj-Gen, just before you move on, just

to clarify, the two doctorates, are those – you list them as qualifications, are those doctorates for which you defended, or are those honorary doctorates that were conferred on you?

MAJ-GEN SENONA: I have just indicated, Commissioners, honoris causa. Thank you, Commissioners. Can I proceed?

ADV BALOYI SC: I suppose not everybody knows what honoris causa is. That is why the question, General, would be helpful.

10 **MAJ-GEN SENONA**: Thank you very much, Commissioner. It is an honorary doctorate.

ADV HASSIM SC: Honorary. So it is an honour that was conferred, not a doctorate for which you studied.

MAJ-GEN SENONA: Yes.

CHAIRPERSON: Perhaps for the future, if you have them listed like this in your CV, please do not list them under qualifications. List them separately.

MAJ-GEN SENONA: I have taken note, Commissioner.

CHAIRPERSON: Thank you, thank you.

20 **MAJ-GEN SENONA**:

“My service history in the South African Police Services, I joined in March 1988. I was placed in the Wierdabrug SAPS, where I was a student, as a student there. And then in the month of June, we

were deployed at the college in Hammanskraal until December, where I attended my basic training, and I completed it in December. After completion, I was placed back at SAPS Wierdabrug. In January 1999, I was placed as a student constable detective at the same police station where I was responsible for investigations of crime. 1990, I was promoted to the rank of lance sergeant after I wrote the necessary...”

10

It is called examinations in order for one to be placed in that rank. So in 1992, I was promoted to the rank of a detective sergeant after I have completed my first year of study at the university, at the Technicon SA, at Technical SA.

CHAIRPERSON: What is the difference between a lance sergeant and a sergeant?

MAJ-GEN SENONA: The difference, Commissioner, is that a lance sergeant is a junior to the sergeant. Even the rank insignia are different. The lance sergeant has got chevrons, and the sergeant has got chevrons and a castle.

20

CHAIRPERSON: Thank you, thank you.

MAJ-GEN SENONA: Thank you, Commissioners. In 1994, I was promoted to the rank of a warrant officer. My duties

from 1994 that I have performed as a detective investigator and team leader, I was placed at an area of Commissioner's Office by them in Pretoria. My responsibilities was to track wanted suspects in the region.

From 1998 to 2002, I was placed at the Murder and Robbery Unit. At that time, our responsibilities there was the investigations of bank robberies. I think I have omitted something here, chain store robberies, as well as murders that were committed with a firearm, where at the time of
10 reporting, the perpetrators of those crimes were unknown.

In 2002, I was promoted to the rank of a captain and I was placed also at the area of Commissioner's Office as a task team coordinator. I coordinated the task team for housebreaking and theft, theft of computers and wanted suspects. There were three task teams that we coordinated.

From 2003 to 2007, I was the head of Detectives. But I want to say 2003 to 2005, I was at the Villieria Detective Services, SAPS Villieria here in Pretoria. And
20 then from 2005 until 2007, I was the head of Detectives at the Silverton Police Station.

2007 to 2009, I was appointed as the programme manager at the rank of a senior special investigator Gauteng Region, Directorate of Special Operations, commonly known as the Scorpion. In 2010 to 2012, I was

appointed as a colonel, as the unit commander of Serious Organised Crime Investigations in Pretoria, responsible for investigations of that nature in that region.

2012 to 2014, I think around February, I was appointed as the Acting Provincial Commander. The rank required a brigadier, but I was a colonel, Serious Organised Crime in DPCI Gauteng, because the incumbent at that time was deployed elsewhere to assist with the managerial responsibilities.

10 In 2014 to 2017, I was sent back to my unit in Pretoria Serious Organised Crime, which falls under the DPCI, even the one I was acting falls under the DPCI. In 2018 until 2020, I was appointed or placed as a section head, Priority Crime Investigations, Organised Crime at head office at the level of a brigadier. I beg your pardon, Commissioners, I jumped this one.

20 2017 to 2018, I got promoted. I was appointed as a brigadier, Provincial Head, SAPS, Organised Crime Investigation Detective Services in the Mpumalanga province. And then in 2018 to 2020, that is where I was transferred by the management to head office as a section head, Priority Crime Investigations, where I was responsible to reinvent the OCTA process or the Organised Crime Threats Analysis. And I was responsible to also reinvent the POCS, Provincial Organised Crime Secretariat, as well

as the NOCS, National Organised Crime Secretariat, where we were dealing with the Covid operations.

So the Crime Intelligence will present some threats. And then when they present these threats, we will evaluate and then present before the National Organised Crime Secretariat for approval, monitoring, extensions, as well as terminations of those projects. I was travelling all over the country, reinventing this because after the establishment of the DPCI, these responsibilities went to DPCI. But now
10 later, the management decided to open up again the Organised Crime and Commercial Crime within the greater service, SAPS.

And in 2020, Commissioners, I was appointed to the rank of a Maj-Gen at the DPCI KwaZulu-Natal. I have attached my full CV as Annexure S1 on my bundle of annexures. Commissioners ...[intervenes].

CHAIRPERSON: And that is the position you still hold?

MAJ-GEN SENONA: That is the position I am still holding, Commissioners.

20 **ADV KHUMALO SC:** Just clarify for me in terms of the hierarchy, if you are a Provincial Head of DPCI, who do you report to? Who is your immediate supervisor?

MAJ-GEN SENONA: Thank you, Commissioners. In terms of the provision of Chapter 6(a) section 17 of the Police Act, the Provincial Head of the Directorate for Priority

Crime Investigations reports directly to the National Head of the DPCI.

ADV KHUMALO SC: So you do not report to the National Commissioner of Police or Provincial Commissioner of Police? There is simply not that line of reporting?

MAJ-GEN SENONA: The line of reporting is directed by the Act. I will report to the National Head, and the National Head is accountable to the Minister. It is there in section 17(c)(a) of the Police Act, the Chapter 6 that was inserted
10 in the establishment of the Directorate. Thank you, Commissioners.

ADV HASSIM SC: So to be clear, you do not report to the National Commissioner?

MAJ-GEN SENONA: I do not.

ADV HASSIM SC: And the National Commissioner has no jurisdiction over any aspect of your employment?

MAJ-GEN SENONA: I report to the National Head of the Directorate. I have got no dealings with the National Commissioner. If the National Commissioner maybe needed
20 something from me, he will go via maybe the Minister or the National Head and the National Head will instruct me to do whatever I needed to do, and I will report directly to this side. I will report to the National Head who will in turn talk to the National Commissioner. I do not write to them.

ADV HASSIM SC: Thank you. Thank you.

MAJ-GEN SENONA: Thank you, Commissioners:

10 “The DPCI was established on the 20th of February 2009 in terms of section 17(c)(1) of the SAPS Act 68 of 1995, called SAPS Act. The Directorate is comprised of the National Head, appointed by the Minister of Police in concurrence with Cabinet, the Deputy National Head, the Provincial Heads and officers appointed to the Directorate based on the required level of experience, training, skills, competencies and knowledge. The DPCI is independent operationally from the South African Police Services...”

I omitted to put operationally there:

“...because we still get our salaries and salary advices through them, the mother body.”

20 But in terms of the ...[indistinct] case, we were supposed to be fully independent, but we are not. We are still going there, but operationally we are independent:

“The DPCI is independent operationally from the SAPS, and it is tasked to prevent, combat and investigate and the

investigation of national priority offences. Section 17(a) of the SAPS defines national priority offences as organised crime, crime that requires national prevention or investigation, or crimes which require specialised skills in the prevention and investigation thereof. This is what is contained in the Act. The National Head determines whether a particular crime is a national priority offence for the investigation of the Directorate. His determinations are circumscribed by legislation, section 16(2) of the Police Act, and the policy guidelines set by the Minister in concurrence with Parliament. Section 16(3) of the SAPS Act provides that in the event of a dispute between the National Head of the Directorate and the National Commission of Police or Provincial Commission of Police on whether a criminal conduct or endeavour thereto falls within the mandate of the Directorate, the determination of the National Head shall prevail. The

10

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Directorate consists of the following divisions in the province that I am serving. There is a component called Serious Organised Crime, which is responsible for the investigation of drug trafficking, human trafficking, kidnapping with the ransom, cash-in-transit, police murders, crimes against the state, to mention a few. The second one is

10 Serious Commercial Crime Investigations, that talks to addressing banking crimes, government frauds and counterfeit, just to mention a few. There is a component called Serious Corruption Investigations, which deals with public and private sector corruptions, as well as fraud and corruptions within the JCPS cluster. There is another component that

20 is Priority Crime Specialised Investigation, which investigates cybercrimes, financial investigations, as well as asset forfeiture investigations. The next one is the Priority Crime Management Centre, which is responsible for analysis of notebook profiling of

people are subjects of investigations, as well as the ...[indistinct] assessments in line with the national priority offences.”

My role – no, the last one, Commissioners, is:

10 “Corporate Support Services. This section is responsible for supply chain management, human resource management, as well as finances in KwaZulu-Natal province. My role as the Provincial Head. As the Provincial Head, I am directly accountable to the National Head. I have been appointed for a period of seven years non-renewable contract.”

Maybe to add on this, Commissioners, is that I think I am left with – we are in January now. We are in January now. One year, six months. Then I will be *oom op die stoep*. Thank you, Commissioners.

ADV HASSIM SC: June 2027 is when your term ends.

20 **MAJ-GEN SENONA:** End of July.

ADV HASSIM SC: July 2027.

MAJ-GEN SENONA: July 2027 it is my last month in the service, and I will be 61 years, one month.

ADV HASSIM SC: Thank you.

MAJ-GEN SENONA:

“Management of specialised investigations and operational support in the province of KZN ensure the effective and efficient management of priority crime and analysis thereof, ensuring the operational support capabilities within the DPCI KZN province are functioning according to the relevant legislations and directives and policies. The management and implementation of strategies from National Head Office to ensure effective prevention, combating and investigation of national priority offences. Maintaining effective management information and strategic planning services within the DPCI in the province where I am employed. Providing performance and implementation monitoring and evaluation reports to the National Head.”

20 Commissioners, I thought I must also share this with you today. Successes, just a little bit of them that myself and my management have managed to achieve through the strategies that we have employed in the province upon my appointment. Throughout in March this year, I will be 38 years in the law enforcement. Although there was a break

in between when I left the police to the Scorpions, then I came back. Both combined, 38 years, 18th of March this year:

10 “Throughout my 38 years of service, I held a level of excellence in carrying out my duties. This is particularly evidenced by my achievement in the DPCI KZN under my tenure. I have elected to list this achievement as the allegations
10 against me depict an unscrupulous senior officials when only the opposite holds true.”

ADV BALOYI SC: General, maybe before you proceed, just so that we do not go back to this because now you are going to be discussing specific cases or crimes. What are the, currently as matters stand, what are the crimes that have been determined as national priorities? Because you mentioned in 18.1 that you are responsible for the effective, efficient, preventing, combating and investigation of
20 national priority crimes. What are those as matters stand now?

MAJ-GEN SENONA: Thank you, Commissioners. You will see in page 6 of my statement, paragraph 15, I have indicated, just to mention a few, drug trafficking, human trafficking, kidnapping with a ransom, cash-in-transit haste,

police murders, crimes against the state. This falls within the component of serious organised crime, just to mention a few. I must indicate to the Commissioners that you see the CITs in around 2018, they were investigated by Detective Services, where we dealt with a project that was addressing the serious, the scourge of this cash-in-transit. But thereafter, the then acting National Head issued a directive in writing to declare the CITs a national priority offence, as it is said, stipulated in the law. Hence, today, the DPCI is
10 investigating these crimes.

Over and above that, Commissioners, the other crimes is banking crimes. Not this normal fraud, but frauds, the frauds that are above the value of R500 000. And then there are other elements that are listed in order to qualify. It is not only the value. Sometimes the value might be less, but you find out the way the crime was committed and the public interest and all those other factors. If they fall within that scope, then the DPCI shall investigate.

You might find a fraud of R300 000 000, I mean, of
20 R3 000 000. People will think, ah, because the value is beyond R500 000, the DPCI must deal with it. It is not only that that determines that. So there is a mandate that has been authorised by the retired National Head that outlined all these type of crimes. If one has forgotten, you go to the mandate, it will assist you.

And then there is a government fraud. We talk about the issues of where there is a fraud in terms of this procurement of people. People will come and tender certain things. Sometimes they submit fraudulent documents in order for them to be appointed as a service provider.

You have also counterfeit goods. And then those are one of the serious crimes, according to me, where they have an impact on the economy of the country. For lack of a better word, they say Fong Kong, the street language, but
10 it is counterfeit goods. So the other ones is indeed corruption within the public and the private sector, as well as the JCPS. Over and above this, if in ...[intervenes].

CHAIRPERSON: As well as the JC what?

MAJ-GEN SENONA: JCPS cluster.

CHAIRPERSON: I am terrible with acronyms. What is that?

MAJ-GEN SENONA: Justice and Crime Prevention and Security cluster.

CHAIRPERSON: Thank you.

20 **MAJ-GEN SENONA:** I hope I have responded to the question of my Commissioner.

ADV BALOYI SC: Ja.

MAJ-GEN SENONA: Thank you. Thank you very much. I was saying my province, in the time till today, that I have also submitted as an Annexure S2, we managed to seize

and successfully store a cocaine to the street value of R1 649 000 000, and a list of all seizures is attached hereto as Annexure S2. I think it was the first time in the country, or even in the province, that this amount of cocaine, including heroin, was seized within the space of what I have been dealing with at KwaZulu-Natal. Of note, in November, the last ...[intervenes].

ADV HASSIM SC: Sorry, Maj-Gen. Can we go to Annexure S2?

10 **MAJ-GEN SENONA:** Yes, Commissioners.

ADV HASSIM SC: And if you could just explain? Because I think what you say in your statement now is to focus on just a few, right, in paragraph 21. Is that correct?

MAJ-GEN SENONA: I am listening.

ADV HASSIM SC: Is that correct?

MAJ-GEN SENONA: What did you say?

ADV HASSIM SC: In paragraph 21, are you just highlighting a few?

MAJ-GEN SENONA: Yes, correct.

20 **ADV HASSIM SC:** Okay. And I just want to confirm that these that you are highlighting in paragraph 21 come from Annexure S2.

MAJ-GEN SENONA: Correct, Commissioners. As well as Annexure S3.

ADV HASSIM SC: As well as S3.

ADV KHUMALO SC: Sorry, were we not in paragraph 20?
I see 21 deals with S3.

ADV HASSIM SC: That is what I am trying to understand, whether the few that are highlighted here are from S2 and S3 or only S2. Are you going to deal with S2 or do you want to just move on to S3?

MAJ-GEN SENONA: Commissioners, the few that are mentioned here, as I indicated, it starts from paragraph 20 of my statement, as Commissioner Khumalo has indicated.
10 Correctly said so. And then it goes further to paragraph 21 with 21.1, 21.2, 21.3, which means it will be S2 as well as S3 in my bundle of documents.

ADV HASSIM SC: Could we turn to S2?

MAJ-GEN SENONA: Come again?

ADV HASSIM SC: Could you turn to S2?

MAJ-GEN SENONA: I am on S2, Commissioners.

ADV HASSIM SC: Okay. So it says DPCI KwaZulu-Natal major heroin and cocaine seizures 2020 to date. I just want to understand who prepared this document and when.

20 **MAJ-GEN SENONA:** This document, we normally have this type of things. The members will report. We keep a database of certain things. And then for the purpose of this Commission, I requested my people to just say, give me this one and this one and this one and then we confirm with everybody that is dealing with my statistics at the office and

say, I want to talk about this and this one, this one. I have selected this one. It is me who selected it.

ADV HASSIM SC: Okay, so this was prepared for the Commission?

MAJ-GEN SENONA: For the Commission.

ADV HASSIM SC: Thank you.

MAJ-GEN SENONA: Thank you, Commissioners.

ADV BALOYI SC: General, in that paragraph 20, you say the province seized and successfully stored. What does it
10 mean successfully stored?

MAJ-GEN SENONA: Which means I am saying successfully stored, it means that we were provided with the storage facility of these cocaine by the management because you will see at the later when I testify in terms of the theft of cocaine, there was a problem. But I will talk, I will deal with that when I arrive there. But for now, here on this seizures, we were assisted with the storage facility.

ADV BALOYI SC: When you say successfully stored, it is not speaking to there were no losses of this.

20 **MAJ-GEN SENONA**: Ja, there were no. Correct, Commissioner. I think you assisted me. Thank you very much. There were no losses. That is the explanation ...[intervenes].

ADV BALOYI SC: All right, thank you.

MAJ-GEN SENONA: Of the successfully stored. There

were no losses.

ADV BALOYI SC: Thank you.

MAJ-GEN SENONA: R1 649 000 000.

CHAIRPERSON: And the 1.6 billion is made up of several seizures?

MAJ-GEN SENONA: Correct, Commissioner.

CHAIRPERSON: Not just one?

MAJ-GEN SENONA: Not just one.

CHAIRPERSON: All right, thank you.

10 **MAJ-GEN SENONA**: It is a number of them, and then they are depicted in this S2.

CHAIRPERSON: S2.

ADV KHUMALO SC: General, please clarify this Annexure S2. Because on the first page, there is the DPCI logo. But then from the second to last pages, on your right, it is a SAPS logo. So I am wondering, who did the seizures? Is it the SAPS, or is it the Hawks? Or are you taking credit for the work of the SAPS? I mean, I am just trying to understand.

20 **MAJ-GEN SENONA**: Commissioners, when I do my presentations, mostly at the first page it will talk about us, the DPCI. And then when we continue, we utilise the SAPS page. But it is us, the Directorate for Priority Crime Investigation. So you see, when we come, we will tell you who we are and then we continue.

ADV KHUMALO SC: Ja.

MAJ-GEN SENONA: Hence, we are saying, administratively, we, for some other reasons, we still decide. And hence, we have utilised this template for the presentation.

ADV KHUMALO SC: I could not help but notice on page 28 of the same document, it is SAPS vehicles that are there.

MAJ-GEN SENONA: Page?

ADV KHUMALO SC: Page 28 and 30, for example.

10 **MAJ-GEN SENONA:** Yes. Commissioners, you want me to respond?

ADV KHUMALO SC: Yes.

MAJ-GEN SENONA: The DPCI, in terms of section 17, I think I talk under correction, (f), we are expected to be a multidisciplinary approach. That is the methodology we are approaching. So we do not work in isolation alone, when we do our operations. We have other law enforcement, like your uniform branch, your combat. We do not have combat. We do not have uniform branch. We do not have Crime
20 Intelligence. They are within the mother body structures. And then sometimes, we also have our external stakeholders.

So here, specifically, when you look at this, there is also border policing that is a national component that we mostly work with at the hub there in Durban. And also

sometimes, you will find customs being part of the operations, because we have employed the multidisciplinary or integrated approach in discharging our duties in order for us to achieve our set objectives.

ADV HASSIM SC: Thanks. So, Maj-Gen, I think we understand that, because the capacity comes from different parts of law enforcement in order to conduct operations of this kind. They are not small operations. So it is different components of law enforcement that are involved in the
10 operation, correct?

MAJ-GEN SENONA: We invite them. Not that they just – they do not just become involved for the purpose of involving. We contract them to our operations.

ADV HASSIM SC: So it is under your command?

MAJ-GEN SENONA: Absolutely, as well as the operational methodology of the Directorate. And so these operations that you have referred to here, including on page 28, are under your watch?

MAJ-GEN SENONA: Absolutely true.

20 **ADV HASSIM SC**: Thank you.

MAJ-GEN SENONA: Commissioners, can I proceed?

Paragraph 21, 21.1:

“In November last year, we managed to seize counterfeit goods with the brand labels such as Gucci, Nike, and Adidas,

worth of R53 572 837 at the Green Africa Container Depot.”

There next to the harbour there:

“In December last year, we also seized illicit cigarettes to the value of R38 758 000 in a warehouse there in Pietermaritzburg.”

That is also part and parcel of KwaZulu-Natal province, and I am saving that as well. I have offices there:

10 “In total, we have confiscated illicit counterfeit goods worth R97 330 837.”

And then I have attached my evidencing report as per Annexure S3. These are but a few of the achievements from 2020, Commissioners. I did not want to add a lot of things. You shall remember that in July 2021, we have this insurrection in the province of KwaZulu-Natal. Also, that operations was under my command, and even the cases are before the High Court as we speak. Those operations were managed and operationalised by my office, and we spent a
20 lot of hours. So I do not want to waste time of the Commission by outlining all the successes that the DPCI KZN has achieved. I just want to mention these few for the Commission's consumption.

ADV HASSIM SC: Okay.

MAJ-GEN SENONA: Now, I want to talk to the subpoena.

Preliminary submissions, Commissioners, I have been implicated by Lt-Gen SD Khumalo, Witness X and Witness C before this Commission. I have, however, only received one Rule-3 notice which reads:

10 “The testimony of Lt-Gen Khumalo implicates you in matters under investigations, in particular, *inter alia*, improper use of your position as head of the Directorate for Priority Crime Investigation, KwaZulu-Natal, in that you leaked sensitive and/or confidential and classified SAPS information or documents or calls seem to be leaked to Mr Vusimuzi Cat Matlala in a business partner of your son, Thato Senona.

20 1.2) Improper use of your position as head of the DPCI KZN to unduly benefit Mr Matlala and other members and associates of the so-called Big Five Cartel.

At the outset, I submit that these allegations above are malicious, void of truth, and amount to congestion. I deny having leaked any confidential information or using my position as the

Provincial Head for benefit of Mr Matlala or the Big Five Cartel. I look forward to providing my testimony to illustrate the aforesaid.”

Commissioners, I must say, I do not even know what is this thing called Big Five Cartel. I only know Big Five in the country. If the Commissioners want to allow me to say the Big Five that I know, I will say it. But for the benefit of doubt and clarity, the Big Five that I know is an elephant, a
10 lion, a buffalo, a rhinoceros, and a leopard. Those are the Big Five I know in the country. But this that is mentioned here, I do not know who, what is, what are they talking about?

ADV HASSIM SC: Are you aware of cartels that exist, whether they are drug cartels or CIT or extortion? Are you aware of those kind of cartels?

MAJ-GEN SENONA: I know of syndicates that I have addressed in my province that are dealing in drugs. I know that we deal with a lot of groupings, that a group of people
20 that are committing CITs on a regular basis. I know of a group of people that were dealing with the drive-by-shooting, of which it was not part and parcel of our mandate, but it was a threat that was emanating in KwaZulu-Natal that I approached the provincial Commissioner with an operational plan in order to address

that. He gave a go-ahead, then we stabilised that, and then we withdrew from that and continued with our mandate.

ADV HASSIM SC: Are those cartels confined to the province or do they have tentacles that extend beyond the province?

MAJ-GEN SENONA: The ones that we have already addressed and we are currently addressing at my province, they are within the province. We do not have others that are moving out of the province. We have not yet identified
10 people there, except in that investigations of July 2021, where you will find out there are people that are linked also from Gauteng, few in Free State, and then some, I think, to some extent, North West, if my memory serves me well. But other than that, the cartels, I mean, sorry, the syndicates that I have dealt with and that I am dealing with are limited to KwaZulu-Natal province.

ADV HASSIM SC: Thank you.

ADV KHUMALO SC: Just so we are clear, you do know what a cartel is? Because in your response, you only
20 referred to syndicates as if it is something different from a cartel. So I just want to understand from you, you do know what a cartel is?

MAJ-GEN SENONA: Thank you, Commissioner. I went and checked, ja. Now I do know what is a cartel. I think it is a synonym of a syndicate. Thank you, Commissioners.

CHAIRPERSON: Is it, though, General? Are the two synonyms?

MAJ-GEN SENONA: I believe so, Commissioner, that a cartel might be a synonym of a syndicate. That is my belief. I might be wrong, but I stand to be corrected. That is my understanding, sir.

CHAIRPERSON: I thought your seniors who gave evidence before you suggested that there is a difference, but let us leave it there. Thank you.

10 **MAJ-GEN SENONA:** Normally, this word is utilised outside the borders of the country when we meet with other law enforcement. Here in South Africa, we talk about a syndicate. It is like when you say organised crime. There say a difference of a Z and a S. Here we use S when we say organised crime, but outside they use a Z. Thank you, Commissioner.

ADV HASSIM SC: Thanks, Commissioner, Chair. Perhaps it would help if, Maj-Gen, you could just define a syndicate then for us so we know what you mean when you talk about
20 syndicates.

MAJ-GEN SENONA: A syndicate is more closely to what we call people who are committing organised crime, but according to my understanding, I am just going to give you a description, not necessarily a definition to that effect. It is two or more people working together, committing crime

on a continuous basis. The main purpose is to have money and power. That is my description and my understanding of a syndicate, Commissioners.

ADV HASSIM SC: Thank you.

MAJ-GEN SENONA:

10 “Question one, infiltration within the
SAPS. Prior to addressing my knowledge
of the allegation of criminal syndicate
infiltration, corruption, and political
interference within the criminal justice
system, I deem it prudent to discuss the
manner in which the investigations within
the DPCI are conducted. Criminal
investigations within the DPCI and SAPS
by nature rely on secrecy or for effective
law enforcement. Confidentiality is
indispensable to the operations as it
protects the witnesses, undercover police
operations, and intelligence. As head of
20 DPCI...” ...[intervenes].

ADV HASSIM SC: Sorry, sorry to interrupt you. Sorry, it is just for clarification. When you say criminal investigations rely on confidentiality and secrecy, what would be included in that, in criminal investigations? Would it include – presumably would include a docket.

MAJ-GEN SENONA: Remember, in DPCI, mostly the cases that we deal with is major case investigation. It might be one docket, but it can take us a year or two to complete. We call most of our cases major case investigations. And also Priority Crime Investigations that are undercover operations. We do not disclose that. It is on a need-to-know basis. But you will hear as I am continuing with my evidence, the clear answer to what you have asked me now, it will be depicted in my statement, and I will talk to that.

10 Maybe it will give you a clarity.

ADV HASSIM SC: Thank you.

MAJ-GEN SENONA: Thank you, Commissioner.

ADV HASSIM SC: I will wait for that. Thanks.

MAJ-GEN SENONA: Ja:

20 “As head of the DPCI KZN, I am privy to criminal investigations that fall under the mandate or Directorate. I am rarely privy to the particularities of investigations within other provinces led by my fellow DPCI heads, or investigations by the greater service, SAPS body, and/or specialised interventions units, such as the PKTT, the Political Killings Task Team.”

That it will be part and parcel of cost that caused us to be

here today, one of the things that caused us to be here:

“In instances where I do gain knowledge
of sensitive information...”

I think this will answer your question:

“...led by the various heads, I gained the
said knowledge through our DPCI
National Project Committee forum, and
all the attendees are required to sign the
Oath of Secrecy, even though we
10 possess a top secret security clearance.”

Commissioners, even at the province, we have a Provincial
Project Committee forum that I am chairing on a monthly
basis, and there we also sign the Oath of Secrecy, even
though we possess the top secret security clearance. Also
the external stakeholders, like your Department of Home
Affairs, FIC, NPA, they are required to sign that, and we
keep record. The purpose of us doing that is to ensure that
people are not going to leak this information. If you find
you have done that, you will have to face the
20 consequences.

ADV HASSIM SC: And to confirm, you have a top security
clearance?

MAJ-GEN SENONA: Mine has just expired in September,
so it is in the process of being renewed. I have applied. I
do have a reference number. I can share it with the

Commissioners, if need be, off camera.

ADV HASSIM SC: Okay, so you ...[intervenes].

ADV HASSIM SC: Ja, it expired September.

ADV HASSIM SC: September '25?

MAJ-GEN SENONA: Yes.

ADV HASSIM SC: Thank you.

MAJ-GEN SENONA: Commissioners, at the forum, you will find the attendance, sometimes of the Deputy National Head, and mostly the Divisional Commissioner National
10 Priority Offences Operations. Component Heads, and then you will find external stakeholders, as I have indicated, Department of Home Affairs, National Prosecution Authority representative, and Financial Intelligence Centre representative. You will find Crime Intelligence representative there, and DPCI Provincial Heads:

20 “We meet on a quarterly basis to present various project investigations. During these presentations, we are advised to conceal the identities of suspects or any information which may jeopardise the investigations.”

In that presentation, you will not see the names of the targets. You will just know the facts, what exactly is happening, but you will not see the names of the targets:

“We further have a DPCI WhatsApp group

where we deposit successes of each province by the Provincial Heads.”

It is like when we are sharing those successes and back stories of our successes, and detailed information is never shared via this WhatsApp group:

10 “Taking the above into consideration, I cannot say that I am privy to any criminal infiltration within the criminal justice system outside of the DPCI KZN. I therefore possess no knowledge as to the business conducted by the Big Five cartel and the composition of this Big Five cartel. I do know the cases where police officials are corrupted by perpetrators of crime in my province. However, these are individual cases not linked to syndicates. I cannot discuss these cases as most, if not all, are presently under investigations and before
20 court.”

So to answer also the concern of the evidence leader, we do have single facet cases even though we do not discuss them in an open space. They remain within that component. Question number two.

ADV KHUMALO SC: General, my concern with your

response to this section of the question is you are dealing with sensitive information of investigations led by DPCI. You are not dealing, for example, with sensitive information relating to investigations by SAPS or various units within the SAPS such as GCI Ops, such as, for example, the PKTT. So you are only answering part of the question, not the full question, and that is my concern. So can you just answer the full question?

MAJ-GEN SENONA: Commissioner, I think in one of my
10 paragraphs I want to go to that one. I have indicated I am not privy to investigations by the greater service, I mean the SAPS in its totality. Then I gave an example, I included the PKTT. Even if they do any other task team or whatever, they have currently their own provincial organised crime secretariat where they deal with Covid operations. I am not part of that. I am not privy to those investigations. I was telling the Commission here what is it that General Senona is privy to, but the rest of that I am not talking about, I bear no knowledge of that, Commissioner.

20 **ADV HASSIM SC**: Just, General ...[intervenes].

ADV BALOYI SC: Sorry, Ms Hassim.

ADV HASSIM SC: Sorry.

ADV BALOYI SC: Yes. General, I am hoping this is just a clarification question because I know we are still in that territory. You say in paragraph 32:

“I can however positively affirm that there is no cartel infiltration within the DPCI KZN.”

Now, I imagine cartel infiltrators will not announce themselves. If you have got them already, they are not going to announce themselves that we are here. How are you able to make such a definitive statement?

MAJ-GEN SENONA: Thank you, Commissioners. I bear no knowledge of that infiltration. So eventually, nobody, even
10 the Crime Intelligence in the province, came and presented a threat that suggests to talk about the cartel infiltration of DPCI KZN, as well as our PCMC, Priority Crime Management Centre, those that are dealing with the threat assessments that are emanating. That type of presentation was never presented before me so that I can come here and say fully I agree. Then when I am asked how many, where, how, and so forth, I must be able to respond to that. Here I am talking about that I am knowledgeable of.

ADV BALOYI SC: Yes.

20 **MAJ-GEN SENONA**: That I am not knowledgeable, I cannot talk about it, which means from where I am sitting, there is nothing until I am advised by my colleagues and say we have picked up this thing that needs to be dealt with and we shall deal with it.

ADV BALOYI SC: Yes. Well, then is not, and that is

exactly what I was interrogating or checking with you, is the the correct statement to make, or that you should have made, is I am not aware of any infiltrations in the DPCI KZN? It is a completely different statement to saying there is no such, because in your statement you say there is no such.

MAJ-GEN SENONA: Thank you, Commissioner. I think it is a human error in writing this language, English. Bear with me, I beg your pardon.

10 **ADV BALOYI SC**: I accept that. You do not need to say more about it. I just wanted to be sure that I ...[intervenes].

MAJ-GEN SENONA: Ja. I think the statement that the Commissioner has corrected me about is the most correct statement.

ADV BALOYI SC: Thank you. Thank you, General.

MAJ-GEN SENONA: Thank you. I am now going to talk about question two, the nature of my relationship with Mr Matlala. Commissioners, I met Mr Matlala around 2018/2019, I think, ja, around that year. And when we met,
20 we were in Pretoria. It was a wedding, you know, and for that matter, Commissioner Khumalo, it was my traditional wedding.

ADV KHUMALO SC: It was your own wedding? I am not sure why you are addressing only me, General, but will you see ...[intervenes].

ADV HASSIM SC: So did you say that it was your own wedding?

MAJ-GEN SENONA: For that matter, it is my traditional wedding. You know, when I am addressing the Commissioners and one of you is looking at me, my mind directly goes to – it is nothing sinister. You know, I am just afraid to address the Chairperson because it he is a Justice, you know. I will make a mistake and I might be in trouble to say, you know, I am Justice so-and-so, so why
10 are you calling me?

But on a lighter note, ja, as far as I can remember, it was at my wedding in Pretoria when I was – when we were doing this traditional wedding after we ...[intervenes].

ADV HASSIM SC: So you say 2018, you do not remember when your wedding was?

MAJ-GEN SENONA: I think it is, it should be 2019 because I went and doublecheck to be correct.

ADV HASSIM SC: You better ...[indistinct] – cross talking] your wife ...[intervenes].

20 **CHAIRPERSON:** Just pray, General. Oh, I wanted to say exactly the same, I wanted to say, just pray that your wife is not listening there.

MAJ-GEN SENONA: Commissioners, if I am going to be punished for what I said and then it was wrong, I will just bend down and then she give me lunch and she said that I

will take it. So, Mr Matlala was introduced to me through a relative of my wife, whom she was dating at the time and then they said he is the owner of the VIP Security Services. We exchanged numbers and then I happened to like him and then that day we never had to talk too much because it was my traditional wedding and there was a lot of people.

CHAIRPERSON: The language you use, General, you say, I took a liking to him and we exchanged numbers. Was there any particular reason for you to like him?

10 **MAJ-GEN SENONA**: You know, Commissioner, in the location where we grew up, you know, when people, they are introduced to you and then they come humbled before you, you will like a humble person, which means you know you will get respect. You will not be undermined or whatever. You know, there are people when they are introduced to you, you find a space that is so fun and then, ja, hello, how are you? But if a person come and say, hello, my brother ...[vernacular], those type of things, with respect, that thing makes a mark.

20 **CHAIRPERSON**: [Vernacular].

MAJ-GEN SENONA: [Vernacular]... There is a verse in the Bible, James, chapter 4, verse 10, it says, humble yourself and the Lord will lift you up. That is the vision of where I come from ...[vernacular]. You do not have to make noise, just humble yourself.

ADV KHUMALO SC: General, just so that we do not go back and forth, where was this area? You say in Pretoria, was it in a township and was this the first time you saw Mr Matlala or you had seen him before but you were only formally introduced in 2019?

MAJ-GEN SENONA: It was the first time. It was in Mamelodi.

CHAIRPERSON: Perhaps for the record, what I said was Sotho for you like humility.

10 **MAJ-GEN SENONA:** I did not hear that well, Commissioner.

CHAIRPERSON: No, I was translating into English the bit about ...[vernacular].

MAJ-GEN SENONA: Okay, thank you, thank you, Commissioner. So, you will realise that I have never met Mr Matlala because he is a business person. My relationship with Mr Matlala is not because he is running a security company, he is doing this, I am the head of the Hawks. Even there, I never said I am head of the Hawks. I
20 was introduced as the husband to my wife. And my wife and him happened to share the same surname.

ADV BALOYI SC: He may well have been told that you are head of the Hawks, you do not know.

MAJ-GEN SENONA: Somebody there, but not me.

ADV BALOYI SC: Yes.

MAJ-GEN SENONA: I cannot ...[intervenes].

ADV HASSIM SC: It is no secret.

MAJ-GEN SENONA: I cannot say, people, those who know where I am working. But you will realise, I want to bring this under your attention, Commissioner, that I have seriously huge successes in my province. I do not like media. I do not sell myself. People, they started to know me too much and my faces because of this Commission. A lot of people did not know who I am or what. Some might
10 know the name, but they cannot know the face. That is how I live.

I do not like media. You will realise most of our successes, I will be standing there. If you know me, you will see me from behind while the Provincial Commissioners are addressing the media. I run away from media because I do not like publicity. That is one of my principles. Thank you, Commissioner.

ADV HASSIM SC: Sorry, just, you said that your wife shares a surname with Mr Matlala. Are they related?

20 **MAJ-GEN SENONA**: I do not want to answer that question.

ADV HASSIM SC: Why not?

MAJ-GEN SENONA: No. It is not parcel and parcel of this. I do not want to.

ADV HASSIM SC: But they share a surname, but you do not want to say whether they are related or not.

MAJ-GEN SENONA: They share a surname. I do not want to answer that question.

ADV HASSIM SC: But she knows Mr Matlala?

MAJ-GEN SENONA: Ja.

ADV HASSIM SC: Okay.

MAJ-GEN SENONA: Thank you, Commissioners.

ADV BALOYI SC: General, if I may just ask? I think it is not sufficient for a witness who is asked a question to simply say I do not want to answer the question. I think you
10 have to say more for what it is worth, but I think you have to say why you do not want to answer that question.

MAJ-GEN SENONA: Commissioner, I hear what you are saying to me. Earlier one of the Commissioners said, hey, I do not know what your wife said, she also said that. So I do not want to create animosity in my own house by talking about the line of their relatives and so forth. Hence, I also say he was dating a relative of my wife. So this thing of related and what, what, what, what, I beg your pardon. I am begging for your mercy. I do not want to respond. Allow
20 me not to respond now. But if I am compelled, I will request to seek legal advice.

ADV BALOYI SC: Yes, that is fair. If you are compelled, you will deal with it at that point. But I think what has to be understood is witnesses are not free to choose questions that they answer or do not answer without providing an

explanation. The question of your explanation is a question of weighing whether it is a good enough explanation, we leave it at that point, or we make a pronouncement about it at some point. But I think the point that I wanted to make is witnesses do not get to pick and choose what questions they answer. You are here to assist the Commission, and if you are asked a question that you have concerns about answering, you do have an obligation to say more than I do not want to answer. That is the only point I wanted to
10 make.

MAJ-GEN SENONA: Thank you, Commissioners. You see, I will say by virtue of the surnames, I do not think there is a relation there. By virtue of the surnames, I do not think so. Because, number two, he was dating a family member of my wife. But now when you look at the issue of the family member, maybe they might have been related through that relationship, but this one of the surnames, I do not know.

ADV BALOYI SC: Thank you, General.

MAJ-GEN SENONA: Thank you, Commissioners.

20 **ADV HASSIM SC**: That is fine, General. I asked because you offered that evidence. You are the one who said that he shares the same surname.

MAJ-GEN SENONA: Ja, they share the same surname.

ADV HASSIM SC: So that is why I asked that question. But I think, ja, there is a relation, you said. And so that

answers the question. We can move on.

MAJ-GEN SENONA: Commissioners, our relationship developed over the years and I consider him as a friend of a younger brother because he is younger than me, Mr Matlala. You know, in our culture, once we started to develop a relationship, we do not call each other friends. We call each other brother.

So, as can be seen from the WhatsApp chat, Mr Matlala and I would regularly check in with each other and
10 would arrange to meet whenever he was in Durban or I in Pretoria. Our meetings were purely that of a social nature. I must make it plain to the Commission that since the beginning of my tenure at DPCI KZN, Mr Matlala has never been a subject of investigation within the Directorate since 2020 when I took up office till today.

And Mr Matlala, further to that, the name Vusimuzi Cat Matlala has never been mentioned at the National Management Forum as well as the National Project Committee Forum. Also in my PPC, my Provincial Project
20 Forum. So, I also sit in the Provincial Management Forum. Sometimes we discuss certain things there in the management. Only generals will sit there with the Provincial Commissioner.

If there are things that are giving the Provincial Commissioner problems, he will mention them there, but

that had never happened in my presence. I therefore possess or possessed no knowledge of Mr Matlala's alleged criminal ties and/or activities. That is my response to question two in relation to our nature of relationship. I want to go to paragraph 37 that talks to WhatsApp exchanges December 2024 to 2025 January:

10 “As stated above, Mr Matlala and I were friends and met on a regular basis. I did on occasion meet with Mr Matlala to advise him on security matters concerning the CAT VIP Security. That is the only business by then I knew that it was vibrant with him. I have further connected him to third parties to assist in data specialising and risk management to assist him.”

As a younger brother, sometimes we say, look into the issues. If this will happen, how are you going to mitigate the risk in order for you to move on with business:

20 “These communications are dated 25 December 2024 as well as 28 December and 15 January 2025, concerning a third party, I had referred to Mr Matlala that conducts this risk assessment. I cannot give further details concerning the

finalisation and/or details of the contract because the risk assessment for CAT VIP Protection as the contract was between the two people, Mr Matlala and the third party.”

I only assisted by introducing those individuals. When I come to the question three ...[intervenues].

ADV HASSIM SC: Sorry, just to clarify on that point, so your assistance was only to introduce Mr Matlala to
10 ...[intervenues].

MAJ-GEN SENONA: A third party.

ADV HASSIM SC: And you did not participate in any discussions regarding the risk assessment of his company?

MAJ-GEN SENONA: What I did, I advised him, he must from time to time do a risk assessment. I will give you an example, maybe you understand what is a risk assessment. But once he develops interest in risk assessment, what do you mean, and then I will explain several things to him. Then I said, there is so and so, I will make sure you meet
20 with him so that he can assist you with this. And then if you are happy, you can continue with that type of a contract with that person. If I can answer your question.

ADV HASSIM SC: Okay, so you, I just want to – what I am asking is, you introduced him to a third party?

MAJ-GEN SENONA: Yes.

ADV HASSIM SC: How did you do that? Were you at a meeting?

MAJ-GEN SENONA: No.

ADV HASSIM SC: How did you do it?

MAJ-GEN SENONA: When he agreed to meet, I did call that man, that gentleman, unfortunately. And then I called Mr Matlala, and then I said this is the guy who will see you, when can he come and where? And then he said he can come to the offices, and then I told that one and I said this
10 is the number of Mr Matlala. I gave it to him, and then I said, continue. Then when I was in KZN, then they did it here in Pretoria.

ADV HASSIM SC: Thank you.

MAJ-GEN SENONA:

“Question three, forwarding of the disbandment letter to Mr Matlala. As it is known by the Commission that the letter has been leaked as of 1st of January 2025. I merely forwarded the letter to Mr
20 Matlala as it was gathering the attention of many, including myself, on social media.”

CHAIRPERSON: General, Ms Hassim, I know you said no probing questions, but perhaps what I want to ask may, in a sense, cross the line. But I just feel I must ask the

questions at this stage. General, to your knowledge, was the disbandment of the PKTT a subject of interest to Mr Matlala?

MAJ-GEN SENONA: We were just sharing information that was on social media and ...[intervenes].

CHAIRPERSON: Can you please just answer the question directly, was this a subject of interest to Mr Matlala?

MAJ-GEN SENONA: I do not know if it was a subject of interest to him.

10 **CHAIRPERSON**: So did you forward the letter to him of your own accord, or had he asked for it?

MAJ-GEN SENONA: It was on my own accord, Commissioner.

CHAIRPERSON: Of your own accord. If you were not aware that this was a subject of interest to him, why would you have done so?

MAJ-GEN SENONA: I was not aware, but we are sharing things that are on social media that are gathering the attention of many. It gathered my attention, and we just
20 shared, I just forwarded it to him. And then after I forwarded it to him, I just left it there. We never had to discuss a lot of things here because we were sharing issues that are on social media.

CHAIRPERSON: And how many friends do you have? Are you able to tell? I know it is a difficult question.

MAJ-GEN SENONA: How many?

CHAIRPERSON: How many friends do you have? I know it is a difficult question. You may say 15 or above 15 or whatever.

MAJ-GEN SENONA: It is a difficult question, as the Commissioner has said. I do not know how to answer that.

CHAIRPERSON: But quite a large number?

MAJ-GEN SENONA: Come again?

CHAIRPERSON: But quite a large number.

10 **MAJ-GEN SENONA**: It cannot be. I doubt it.

CHAIRPERSON: You have very few friends?

MAJ-GEN SENONA: Come again?

CHAIRPERSON: You have very few friends?

MAJ-GEN SENONA: Ja, not too much. And then colleagues is not my friends. I have colleagues, then I have friends.

CHAIRPERSON: And did you forward this to any of your other friends?

20 **MAJ-GEN SENONA**: I believe I might have. I believe I might have, because I might not have sent it only to him. I think I might have also talked to my colleagues about this.

CHAIRPERSON: No, no, sharing, not talking.

MAJ-GEN SENONA: Oh, sharing.

CHAIRPERSON: You shared it.

MAJ-GEN SENONA: I believe I might have,

Commissioners.

CHAIRPERSON: You do not know for a fact that you did?

MAJ-GEN SENONA: No, I believe I might have. There is no way that, if this, I shared it with him, there must be two or three, four people that I sent it to. I believe I might have.

CHAIRPERSON: Friends?

MAJ-GEN SENONA: Friends.

CHAIRPERSON: Who also had no interest in the
10 disbandment of the PKTT?

MAJ-GEN SENONA: Of course, yes, Commissioner.

CHAIRPERSON: And if you go back to your records, do you assure me that you will be able to show me, or show this Commission, the other people that you shared the disbandment letter with, the other friends that you shared the disbandment letter with? Say tomorrow, if by tomorrow I say please show us the other friends that you shared the disbandment letter with, friends that had no interest in the disbandment of the PKTT, would you be able to do that?

20 **MAJ-GEN SENONA**: Hence, I said ...[intervenues].

CHAIRPERSON: By tomorrow. By tomorrow.

MAJ-GEN SENONA: Hence I said I believe, Commissioner, because the phone that I was utilising by then got damaged and then it could not be utilised again. And now I had to get another instrument.

CHAIRPERSON: So you would not be able to show us?

MAJ-GEN SENONA: I checked on this one. I asked people to check for me because some of these things I am told they sit there on the iCloud, but I could not find. Even the one to show me that I have sent it to him, I cannot find that one. I only relied on what was sent to me by the Commission.

CHAIRPERSON: One last question or comment. Would you agree if I suggest to you that it is very strange that you
10 would have shared with Mr Matlala a letter disbanding the PKTT if you did not know him to have any interest in the subject of the PKTT? Would you agree with me that that is very strange?

MAJ-GEN SENONA: I do not agree, Commissioner, because I was not aware he is the subject of investigation by the PKTT or any other unit within the South African Police.

CHAIRPERSON: Exactly my point. Exactly because you did not know that, so you randomly shared the disbandment
20 letter with him.

MAJ-GEN SENONA: As I am saying, it is this an unfortunate that they found it in his own gadget. And when they found it from his gadget, unfortunately when I received the documents from the Commission, I tried to recuperate, to try and get the information to see it is him and who and

who, but unfortunately I could not get that. But I disagree with that I sent it to him because there was knowledge of me knowing that he is being investigated. I did not know, Commissioner.

CHAIRPERSON: I said nothing. I said nothing about him being investigated. I have not said anything. I am just focussing on you not knowing him to have any interest in the PKTT and you randomly send or forward to him the disbandment letter. I have not said anything about an
10 investigation.

MAJ-GEN SENONA: Commissioners, when sometimes you send things to your contacts and everything, it is not the issue of there is, we do have an interest in this thing. We just share randomly just to talk about things, current affairs. That hey, his is what, this is what, this is what. But the issue of that I send it with ulterior motives, no. It is not that.

CHAIRPERSON: But I do not for once hear you say and you then discussed it as a matter that is out there, as a
20 current affairs matter as it were. I do not hear you to say that at all. You just put forward it.

MAJ-GEN SENONA: Commissioner, you will see ...[intervenes].

CHAIRPERSON: No, nor do I understand that he responded to you forwarding this to him and responded in

the sense of it being a social or current affairs matter. I do not see that anywhere.

MAJ-GEN SENONA: Commissioner, as we move on with this so-called screenshot messages, you will see that there will be some things that we have exchanged but without talking thereafter or even before. It is not a new thing that specifically for this one we never said and discussed certain things. There are at some stages where we will talk, at some stages we will not talk.

10 **CHAIRPERSON**: All right, thank you. Thank you, General.

MAJ-GEN SENONA: Thank you, Commissioner.

ADV HASSIM SC: Thank you, Chair. Sorry, Chair.

ADV BALOYI SC: Before you proceed, maybe just to clarify, before you forwarded Mr Matlala this letter, this disbandment letter, before that day, had you shared with him and forwarded to him anything else to do with SAPS' business or SAPS' affairs?

MAJ-GEN SENONA: Thank you, Commissioner. I cannot
20 recollect now before, but maybe as I have indicated earlier that I had a problem with my gadget. It was going to help me a lot to recollect because when you do things with your friends or family and everything, it is difficult to keep track record exactly. Now it is an unfortunate situation. I am sitting here, given these documents by the Commission, presented by the witnesses, and then I am trying to

recollect all these kind of things.

And then wherever I remember, I will respond. Wherever I am struggling to remember, I am just afraid to come and say I assume or it is my opinion, one, two, three, because I want to assist the Commission to give only facts, not assumptions or speculations.

I want to assist the Commission. I did not come here to speculate or assume or think this, this, this. I came here to come and give facts that are to my knowledge. That
10 are not to my knowledge, I will not be able to provide, but it is an unfortunate situation. I wanted to go through my gadget and get that, but unfortunately.

ADV BALOYI SC: So is the short answer to my question that you do not recall whether you shared with him any information that relates to the SAPS before this letter?

MAJ-GEN SENONA: Yes, I do not have a recollection of that, Commissioner.

ADV BALOYI SC: Thank you.

ADV KHUMALO SC: Just a follow-up question. Sorry,
20 Advocate Hassim. General, you say in paragraph 34, we are still on page 13, you considered him to be a friend/brother. You are talking about Mr Matlala. Next paragraph, you say, I would regularly check in with each other and we would arrange to meet whenever he was in Pretoria, I was in Pretoria or Durban, whatever, and our

meetings were purely social. So during this social discussion, so when you were checking with him regularly, did he tell you that there was a raid at his house on the 6th of December 2024?

MAJ-GEN SENONA: He did inform me there, I think in March, around there, if I recall.

ADV KHUMALO SC: March of what?

MAJ-GEN SENONA: 2025, if I recall when we were talking.

ADV KHUMALO SC: Yes.

10 **MAJ-GEN SENONA**: But in our discussion, he never informed me who are these police.

ADV KHUMALO SC: No, no, I did not ask about who ...[intervenes].

MAJ-GEN SENONA: I am just giving a further explanation to your question, Commissioner.

ADV KHUMALO SC: And in this regular check-ups, did he tell you that there was a raid at CAT Security Services where his weapons were seized in mid to late December 2024?

20 **MAJ-GEN SENONA**: He did tell me that there was this thing and then the police came to do inspection of firearms, the compliance. Then I said, if they are doing the compliance, so what? Allow them to do their job.

ADV KHUMALO SC: And when did he tell you that?

MAJ-GEN SENONA: I am not 100% sure, but he did tell

me, Commissioner.

ADV KHUMALO SC: It goes to Chair's question. For what good reason would you share with Mr Matlala the disbandment of the Political Killings Task Team? What does Mr Matlala have to do with a Political Killings Task Team based in KwaZulu-Natal when he is a security operator in Pretoria or Johannesburg? Why would he be interested in a Political Killings Task Team and its disbandment?

10 **MAJ-GEN SENONA:** Look, I already indicated, Commissioner, that it was a gunnery thing in the public domain. We just share it for the purpose of sharing it. I did not want to create answers that are not there for the Commission. I want to give the Commission what I know.

CHAIRPERSON: Thank you, General. Let us take the tea, gentlemen.

INQUIRY ADJOURNS

INQUIRY RESUMES

CHAIRPERSON: Yes, thank you Ms Hassim.

20 **EXAMINATION BY ADV HASSIM SC (CONTINUES):** Thank you, Chair. Maj-Gen, we were dealing with paragraphs 39 to 41. Is there anything else you wish to add on this question of forwarding the disbandment letter to Mr Matlala?

MAJ-GEN SENONA: What I want to add, Commissioners,

is that a witness came here before this Commission. Lt-Col Khumalo testified here and indicated that he saw this letter on social media on the 31st. Lt-Gen Khumalo came here and testified that he saw this letter on social media on the 1st of January around in the afternoon, and it spoiled his New Year celebration.

General Senona, because this thing was garnering on social media, he sent it to Mr Matlala on the 2nd of January. Already, this thing was in the public domain.
10 Every person I had access to this type of a letter. And I must say, I deny the allegations that I possess knowledge that Mr Matlala was being investigated by the PKTT. Further to that, as stated above, I am only privy to the investigations within the DPCI KZN. I could not have possibly known that Mr Matlala was under the investigation by the PKTT. The next one is question four ...[intervenes]

ADV KHUMALO SC: Just a minute, General. Just a minute, General.

MAJ-GEN SENONA: Okay, Commissioner.

20 **CHAIRPERSON:** No, we are hearing some background noise, General, and it is not even your voice. But we have asked our spokesperson to listen, and if possible, to attend to it.

MAJ-GEN SENONA: Thank you, Commissioner.

CHAIRPERSON: Thank you. Thank you, General. You

may continue.

MAJ-GEN SENONA: Thank you, Commissioner. Allow me to talk to question four. The headings, business relationship with Thato Senona and Mr Matlala. At the outset, I would like to state that I have no financial interest in any of Mr Matlala's businesses operations, whether it be my son, Thato Senona, or any other individual. Commissioners, my son is 33 years of age.

My son is married with three kids. We rightfully live
10 our lives independently to each other, but he still remains
my son. And for a lighter note, I became a father on earth
because of this one. Nevertheless, I came into knowledge
of the budding business relationship between Mr Matlala
and my son. I do not recall the day, however, during the
conversation ...[intervenes]

ADV HASSIM SC: Sorry, sorry, Maj-Gen, we will keep it to a minimum, but I just need to clarify. You say you came into knowledge of the budding business relationship between Mr Matlala and my son, *ex post facto*.

20 **MAJ-GEN SENONA:** Yes.

ADV HASSIM SC: What exactly do you mean there? When did you come into knowledge? When did you come to have this knowledge?

MAJ-GEN SENONA: If you look at the paragraph I was about to talk to, it says, nevertheless, it is 44. It says:

“I do not recall the day, however, during the conversations between me and Mr Matlala, he checked with me whether I knew Thato Senona.”

And I suppose this prompted him or piqued his interest because the surnames are the same. And in my response, I confirmed that Thato Senona is my son.

ADV HASSIM SC: I hear you say you do not recall the day.

MAJ-GEN SENONA: I do not recall.

10 **ADV HASSIM SC:** Do you recall the year or month?

MAJ-GEN SENONA: Absolutely true. Come again?

ADV HASSIM SC: Do you recall the year or month or anything else about when you came into knowledge? I accept that you do not recall the exact day.

MAJ-GEN SENONA: It cannot be 2025 early. It should be before that. It cannot be 2025 early. Should be in the latter part of 2024.

ADV HASSIM SC: Latter part of 2024?

20 **MAJ-GEN SENONA:** It can be in the latter part of 2024, but I do not have a recollection of the date. As I have indicated in my previous saying, now, now, now, two minutes ago, that I cannot recall the date. But it can be in the latter part of 2024.

ADV HASSIM SC: So, in the last few months of 2024?

MAJ-GEN SENONA: I believe so. I said I did not want to

say I believe so, but since you are asking a question, I believe it is in the latter part of the year because when he asked me these questions about do I know Thato Senona.

ADV HASSIM SC: Thank you.

MAJ-GEN SENONA: I confirmed that Thato Senona is my son, and I enquired to know what about him. And then he informed me that my son approached him for a business proposal, and it was alleged by Mr Matlala that the proposal was in relation to property ventures. And I enquired also
10 from my son about this proposal by Mr Matlala or about this statement of Mr Matlala in that he approached him for a business proposal in property ventures.

And my son confirmed that, yes, we were pursuing business just to look into the issues of property. And yes, in 2025, I see with our communication that the business took off, and I was informed by both my son and Mr Matlala that they were in the process of acquiring a property in Pretoria. I pause to state that my son works within the construction industry, having registered his business, Thato
20 Senona Holdings in 2016.

I believe that Witness X with your assistant advocate displayed my son's profile and his companies before the Commission. It did happen. And I am saying on the 6th of February, Mr Matlala excitedly sent me screenshots evidencing the property he had intended to

purchase with Thato. Thato is my son, Thato Senona. I responded to Mr Matlala's message with an image of prayer emoji, emoji saying, thank you.

A father will be happy if a son is having a job and is working as long as it is a legitimate job. My interest, Commissioners, in the property venture did not go beyond that of a supportive parent. It is a common cause and knowledge that we Africans, when our sons are doing certain things and they need the moral support from the
10 parents, we give them.

It is a common cause, and it is a common practise. In no way, I have facilitated their business relationship. If it is alleged that I supported or facilitated the Pretoria property venture, it is only to the extent of assisting Mr Matlala to get hold of my son, as can be seen in the WhatsApp chats dated 24 January 2025, stamped 18:22 and 18:23.

The WhatsApp exchanges dated 9 January 2025 depict nothing more than actions of an interested parent in
20 the activities of his son. I had known that Thato was set to meet Mr Matlala, I therefore merely checking whether the meeting had transpired. For the edification of the Commission, nothing came out of that property venture. I want to repeat nothing came out of that property venture between Mr Matlala and my son.

The Witness X says, I do not know what happened to that property, what is the current status. I am telling the Commission, nothing came out of that property venture between Mr Matlala and my son, Thato Senona. And I implore the Commission to undertake its own investigation to verify this fact. I am confident that such enquiry will confirm the absence of any improper conduct or benefit whether for me or for my son.

Taking the above into consideration, witness
10 allegations, Witness X allegations in paragraph nine to 17 are mere congenial. Witness X failed to prove a beneficial relationship between Mr Matlala and myself and further fails to show why the purchase of the property proves untoward me as the provincial head. Commissioners, you will realise that this witness, when she testified here, when she happened to use the following words.

Seemingly, it appears to, what was the other word? Presumably, I am not good in English, but these words on their own Commissioners, they do not show facts. These
20 are pure speculations. And they might be, they are causing harm to people's reputations and everything. It is important that people, when they come and testify before this Commission, they need to be factual to assist the Commission to make a good determination.

We must contribute towards the Commission's

making a good decision at the end of this Commission. I want to add on this one that your Witness X, to know whether the property has been finalised or not, you go to Remix, they will give you the details and say, no, this thing never happened or it happened. Or you go to CIPC. So, I implore the Commissioner to send its people to verify this information, and it is going to be confirmed as I am saying now, Commissioners.

My son is a private citizen who is allowed to
10 conduct legal business within this country. This statement of mine, Commissioners, I am supporting it with the provision of the constitution of the Republic of South Africa. Chapter 2, that talks to the Bill of Rights. My son has the right, the freedom of trade, the right to freedom of trade with any other person, as long as the business is legit.

There are no dodgy businesses around that. His business relations should not and cannot cast a shadow upon me as a parent and/or as a provisional, especially when such business is above board. Commissioners, allow
20 me to go to question five. Medicare24, 20 district contracts with SAPS. I have no knowledge on the broader allegations of criminality surrounding the Medicare24 tender.

My knowledge is limited to the information Mr Matlala has shared with me and that which I have read in the media. I am aware that the Medicare24 was founded by

Mr Matlala. As it was, as I am saying, I know what he told me and what I found on the media. Medicare24 won a bid to provide medical and wellness services to the members of the SAPS at its Pretoria College.

The contract price for the tender was R360 million. Mr Matlala experienced payment problems. with SAPS. I was informed by Mr Matlala that his company has stopped receiving purchase orders for the tender. I deny allegation that I have assisted Mr Matlala in securing the Medicare24
10 tender. Tenders of such a high value fall under the national office, national SAPS office or the DPCI office, if that is there.

And these tenders of this value are dealt with by Supply Chain Management Division, which is under the leadership of the Divisional Commissioner of Supply Chain, SAPS. And I believe the Divisional Commissioner did go and testify in the committee. And he explained it explicitly that they went through the processes and this thing was awarded to Mr Matlala.

20 Commissioners, another thing that is very much crucial and important, during the process of handling, this process is handled by the SAPS Division, and I have no knowledge of official SAPS officials sitting within the bid adjudication committee that are dealing with this processing of this contract. And also, any other committee members

that are seated there.

All officials that are participating in these committees are appointed by the National Commissioner of the South African Police Services. The people that deal with these big tenders and everything is done at head office and may not have got no bearing in the dealings of the National Commissioner's I have got a bearing in the dealings of KwaZulu-Natal, DPCI.

And then as I have indicated in my openings,
10 Commissioners, I report to the National Head of the Directorate. So, I therefore never received a kickback of any kind, directly or indirectly, from Mr Matlala for his securing of the tender. In relation to the purchase orders, I must disclose that on the 15th of April 2025, I accompanied Mr Matlala to a meeting held between himself and Lt-Gen Mkhwanazi.

The meeting was organised by the former Minister, General Cele, who was not present on the day. Mr Matlala has requested me that I accompany him for the moral
20 support as he was not comfortable to meet with the General alone. So, the meeting was held at the apartment in the Pell's Umshangau Hotel[?]. Presumably, I am just asking for your pardon because I use this word that I do not like, but I did not do an investigation, but I believe that apartment is that of the General Mkhwanazi.

Upon arrival, we sat in the living room area. We had conversations of a general nature shortly thereafter, Mr Matlala and Lt-Gen Mkhwanazi began their discussions on the issues of the payments. I am not privy to all that was discussed as I was moving between the living area and the kitchen. My knowledge, however, in terms of my recollection, is that the General agreed to assist Mr Matlala to get the purchase orders from head office.

And then Lt-Gen Nkhuoa was the, what you call, the
10 end user of the services of this tender. And he spoke about Lt-Gen Nkhuoa's rumours that she owns properties beyond her affordability, which might amount to corruption. And he also offered, there I heard that he also offered to hold, it is the first time I heard about the investigation against Matlala, that to offer allegations of attempted murder against Mr Matlala for Tebogo Thobejane in exchange of information in relation to Lt-Gen Sibiya in that meeting.

Commissioners, in a process there, the General offered me some drinks there. You see, there is a lounge
20 there, then you go out, you come this side, there is a kitchen, there is some sort of liquor that was placed there. I was drinking, he offered me and I drank. It was after hours, I drank, because I am drinking. Yes, I was moving up and down.

I am aware that I might be required to say, but you

must also remember this. If I do not remember, unfortunately, but I was drinking that day, moving up and down. And consequently, the meeting - consequent to the meeting above, on the 26th of November 2025, I received a series of threatening WhatsApp from Lt-Gen Mkhwanazi. I think they are being attached as per S4.

I was sent this chat in response to Mr Matlala's appearance before the Ad-Hoc Committee on the 26th and 27th of November. These messages, they appear
10 threatening to me, they are threatening to me, and Mr Matlala, and amounts to intimidation. I will take the Commission through these messages to ring my testimony on the day. Aside from attending the meeting of the 15th, 2025, I deny any assistance to Mr Matlala.

ADV HASSIM SC: Sorry, Maj-Gen, this is the day. So, do you want to go to the messages now, or do you want to go there later?

MAJ-GEN SENONA: Maybe we might go later, or now, I do not know what this Commission has to say.

20 **ADV HASSIM SC:** This is your opportunity now to give your version, so.

MAJ-GEN SENONA: I am aware it is my opportunity, but I have not yet concluded.

ADV HASSIM SC: You have not yet?

MAJ-GEN SENONA: Concluded my testimony.

ADV HASSIM SC: Sure.

MAJ-GEN SENONA: Yes.

ADV HASSIM SC: Sure.

MAJ-GEN SENONA: Maybe before I close, I might go there.

ADV HASSIM SC: Okay.

MAJ-GEN SENONA: Unless the Commissioner say, do it now. No, you are moving on to a different topic, and that is why I am asking, do you want to go there now? If you say
10 you will come before you conclude, that is fine.

MAJ-GEN SENONA: No, if you insist, let us go there. It should be S4. Thank you, Commissioners. You will see there were messages sent to me on 18:31 and 18:53, and this message were automatically deleted, were deleted, like not with this thing, that disappearing message, but I send you a message and I delete it physically there. Unfortunately, I was unable to capture what was said there, but maybe I must read it on record, but I am afraid to list names. I therefore request that ...[intervenes]

20 **ADV KHUMALO SC:** Before you do that, I am looking for the date. I struggle to find that date of 26 November 2025.

MAJ-GEN SENONA: If I can present my phone, it will show that, my work phone.

ADV KHUMALO SC: I am sorry, General, I meant on this document.

MAJ-GEN SENONA: Yes, but when you do that, when you screenshot it and do something, sometimes it does not appear, but I can help because I saved it.

ADV KHUMALO SC: I am with you.

MAJ-GEN SENONA: I can assist you with this gadget that the SAPS has provided me with. It was - can I look at it? Am I allowed Commissioner? Okay. Oh, shucks. Did you get it?

ADV HASSIM SC: Chair, the request is that in this text
10 that is sent by Lt-Gen Mkhwanazi, there is reference to other third parties' names, and the request is to not mention those names, and I see no problem in that if we do not mention those names in public.

CHAIRPERSON: All the names without exception, because, for example, one name mentioned is actually in the statement. In fact, yes.

ADV HASSIM SC: Well, I think that there are names that are not in the statement, so it is the names that are not already covered in the written statement by the witness.

20 **CHAIRPERSON:** Ms Mafisa, do you want to, please? I think perhaps that tomorrow you should just sit there rather than this up and down, because even if you are there, you are not really talking to the witness, so I do not think the proximity assists in any way.

MS MAFISA: Chair, perhaps maybe after the lunch

adjournment, I will just bring my files here and sit here.
Thank you, Chairperson, thank you.

CHAIRPERSON: I was raising the point about the names not being mentioned.

MS MAFISA: Yes.

CHAIRPERSON: I am looking at this annexure, and I am looking also at the statement, and I see that there are some names that are mentioned in both documents, and at least I do see one.

10 **MS MAFISA**: Yes.

CHAIRPERSON: So is the point you made to your colleague, Ms Hassim, does it apply to all the names or just some of them?

MS MAFISA: So just some of the names. So, the names that have already been mentioned within the statement, as well as in Maj-Gen Senona's testimony, that can be mentioned. However, there is one particular name in that WhatsApp chat, or rather in that screenshot, that we have not included in the testimony, in his statement, rather.

20 **CHAIRPERSON**: There is one name, another one now, that I see, reading too many statements, one gets confused.

MS MAFISA: Yes.

CHAIRPERSON: I see a second name. I remember seeing it when I was preparing on Sunday. Now I am not sure whether it was in the General Senona's statement, or in

another statement. Let me do what the Americans do. Let me ask counsel to come forward. I will just show you the name here. Thank you, Ms Mafisa. This was a useful exercise. So, it turns out that the other name I was mentioning can also be mentioned.

MS MAFISA: Yes.

CHAIRPERSON: But now, I am not sure whether the General is aware which name is going to be left out.

MS MAFISA: Perhaps maybe my attorney can assist Maj-
10 Gen Senona?

CHAIRPERSON: Perhaps, I trust you are a -I almost said officer of the court. You are not a court. Maybe, but just whisper to the General which name to, or not to.

MS MAFISA: Thank you, Chairperson.

ADV HASSIM SC: Chair, while my colleague does that, may I please request, request our team not to flight, not to project that annexure, because it is not appropriately redacted.

CHAIRPERSON: That is a very long discussion now. I
20 thought it was just mentioning to the witness which name not to divulge. Is it done, Ms Mafisa?

MS MAFISA: Unfortunately, Chairperson, there is a particular paragraph, actually, that should also not be read out loud for safety reasons.

CHAIRPERSON: May we ...[intervenes]

MS MAFISA: So, I did omit to specify.

CHAIRPERSON: May we just leave this entire annexure until later?

MS MAFISA: Please, Chairperson, thank you.

CHAIRPERSON: So that whatever is done, when it is done, it is structured.

MS MAFISA: Yes, that would assist us, thank you.

CHAIRPERSON: Thank you.

ADV HASSIM SC: Thank you, Chair.

10 **CHAIRPERSON**: Please continue, General. Let us skip dealing specifically with these texts or chats.

MAJ-GEN SENONA: Thank you, Commissioners. I was saying, aside from attending the 15th of April 2025, I deny any assistance of Mr Matlala for the payment of his invoices for the Medicare tender. The message exchanges between Mr Matlala and myself dated 15 January is not proof of the aforesaid as alleged by Witness X in her statement. As previously stated, I was privy to Mr Matlala's struggles with payments and purchase orders.

20 This is merely another occasions where Mr Matlala was opening up to me regarding his struggles. This is normal between friends, and it took place again in our WhatsApp exchanges of 13 May 2025. Regarding the message of the 14 April 2025, which reads:

“Oh, Nduna, please do not forget to ask

our brother about the lady who is staring
problems.”

Here, I also utilise this name, this word assume that I do not want to, but I assume that it may have been concerning the Medicare24 tender and his issues are with Lt-Gen Nkhuoa. I unfortunately do not have the best recollection regarding his message. I reiterate, however, that I have never assisted Mr Matlala in the payment of his invoices or have ever shown questionable concerns over his tender or
10 payments.

Concerning the 5 March WhatsApp message exchange, I was merely checking in on a friend. I will admit that the News24 article concerned me as allegations were disturbing. I discussed the allegations with Mr Matlala telephonically and grew wary of his innocence. Definitely, this thing played a part in me culminating the decision to start to move away.

CHAIRPERSON: Wary or weary?

MAJ-GEN SENONA: I do not know the pronunciation,
20 Commissioner, I said wary, but I do not know is it wary or weary.

CHAIRPERSON: Perhaps let me ask what you intended.

MAJ-GEN SENONA: Disturbing. Some sort of disturbing.
It did not sit well.

CHAIRPERSON: Okay. Thank you, General. Thank you.

MAJ-GEN SENONA: Thanks, Commissioner. So, this definitely played a part in my culminating decision to start to reframe, you know, moving away from Mr Matlala gradually. You know, you do not just cut relationship abruptly. So, gradually I decided to not interact with him as previously we did.

ADV HASSIM SC: Sorry, Maj-Gen. You say this definitely played a part in my culminating decision to cut all contact.

MAJ-GEN SENONA: Yes, I must say since he was
10 arrested, I cut. I have never even visited him to prison. I have never even tried to access him through a third-party person or whatever. I just cut.

ADV HASSIM SC: After his arrest.

MAJ-GEN SENONA: When he was, I saw it on the news he was arrested and then I just cut.

ADV HASSIM SC: Right, but up until that point you continued to have contact with him.

MAJ-GEN SENONA: Look, up until that point, he will call me, I will call him, but my way of talking to him was very
20 wary since I saw this article because I asked him about it.

ADV HASSIM SC: Since 5 March?

MAJ-GEN SENONA: Yes, I started to become worried about his conduct.

ADV HASSIM SC: So, your contact with him, you cut contact with him because he was arrested.

MAJ-GEN SENONA: It did.

ADV HASSIM SC: But - let me finish my question. But you continued to have contact with him until the day he was arrested, but you say your contact was now very, with caution.

MAJ-GEN SENONA: Maybe, yes, it was caution. Cautionary, you are hundred percent. So, it was cautionary, but after his arrest, I cut.

ADV HASSIM SC: Okay, and you say you discussed the
10 allegations with Mr Matlala. When did you discuss those allegations with him?

MAJ-GEN SENONA: I will have to refresh my mind after I have said this. Immediately after I sent him this thing, we were on calls. I was telling him, you know, this thing, why are you doing this? Whereas this company's yours. What is the problem now? Why are there changes all of a sudden of these things? You know, those types of questions you ask your brother.

And then, you started to become worried. I told
20 him, I started to become worried that this thing, why are you changing? I think this thing is the changing of the directorship of his company. That is the thing that started to worry. If you have a contract with, such a big contract, and then you decide to change the directorship, what is the cause of that?

ADV HASSIM SC: And it was because of that?

MAJ-GEN SENONA: That is where I became cautionary and started to say, hey, move here. I need to start to reverse.

ADV HASSIM SC: Okay, I get that. And just, again, to confirm, because you do say it, but just to confirm, it was that media article that made you concerned?

MAJ-GEN SENONA: It made me very much concerned, yes.

10 **ADV HASSIM SC:** Right, thank you.

CHAIRPERSON: And you also say, General, you grew wary of his innocence. Do you mean his claims that he was innocent, or what do you mean by that?

MAJ-GEN SENONA: Come again, Commissioner?

CHAIRPERSON: You say you grew wary of his innocence. What do you mean by that?

MAJ-GEN SENONA: I was worried about him changing the directorship. Why, why? Why do you change the directorship?

20 **CHAIRPERSON:** My focus is on innocence. What do you mean by that part of the statement? Do you see, this is 72, one, two, three, fourth line. You grew wary of his innocence. Do you mean innocence, or his claims of innocence? What do you mean?

MAJ-GEN SENONA: Commissioners, because that article

talks about fraud.

CHAIRPERSON: Yes.

MAJ-GEN SENONA: Fraudulently obtained tender. That is what prompted me to grow wary of his innocent article. Then it disturbed me, and disturbed my ...[intervenes]

CHAIRPERSON: My focus is just on the language. I want you to please explain the language. What do you mean by what you say there? It is not a complex.

MAJ-GEN SENONA: It disturbed me, Commissioner,
10 regarding that you got the tender straight, but why, why, why this changing of the directorship?

CHAIRPERSON: Okay, I will leave it.

MAJ-GEN SENONA: Yes.

CHAIRPERSON: Thank you.

MAJ-GEN SENONA: Thank you, Commissioners. As I indicated, I discussed these allegations with Mr Matlala telephonically, and of course, the word that is giving us some little bit of a challenge, wary of his innocence. You know, this definitely played a part in culminating my
20 decision. I want to go now to question 6, Commissioners.

ADV HASSIM SC: Go ahead.

MAJ-GEN SENONA: Question 6, message on the 6th of March 2025, regarding General Mkhwanazi. Mr Matlala and myself frequently converse about current affairs. This message is nothing more than two friends sharing news

clips, articles about matters in the media, like we were sharing that other one, and now here, it is evidence that on the 29th of April, there was a message that he also sent to me that was on the news, according to him, and then he forwarded me the message and everything, and then I, fortunately, I did my response I cannot recall, maybe, if I am allowed to check if when I sent him this thing, he did respond or what, but I do not remember him responding, or us having a call. Sometimes, you will send a message to a person, and then he does not read or respond.

CHAIRPERSON: What was it?

MAJ-GEN SENONA: I am also doing that.

CHAIRPERSON: What was it about, General?

MAJ-GEN SENONA: This is a clip, is where General Mkhwanazi, after he presented in Parliament, and then he addressed the media. The NCA, he addressed the media there that he did not apply for the Hawkshead because it is not going to benefit him. The type of a media briefing statement is just a picture of him and this narrative there, of which we just share things, because a lot of people, I must say, admired General Mkhwanazi and myself.

When things were happening, the country was saying, hey, KZN is doing the right thing while we were fighting stubborn crimes in the province together, partnering together, applying the integrated approach, and the people

were saying, hey, you and him, General Mkhwanazi, are working very close and nicely. They had their own wishes, people. So sometimes, you will share certain things with people to say, eish, I saw a wish, but unfortunately, some of the wishes does not come true.

CHAIRPERSON: Thank you, you may continue, General.

MAJ-GEN SENONA: Thank you, Commissioners. Then next question is forward of Esmael Malude, Rasmus Nangy's affidavit. Yes, indeed, I agree, I did forward this
10 one to Mr Matlala. The main reason is that, let me first start by saying, has been leaked to the media. This article was leaked in the media on the 10th of March 2025, and I did send it on the same day.

And when I forward sent to Mr Matlala, I also have attached the News24 article evidence and the aforesaid Annexure S5. I therefore deny allegations that I may have leaked sensitive and/or confidential – and/or classified information to Mr Matlala. I merely send it to Mr Matlala to warn him, as this gentleman, Mr Nangy, we as the province,
20 my office has arrested and charged him for kidnapping, attempted murder, and extortion of a businessman where a ransom of R35 million was demanded.

So, to elaborate further on this one, the only thing here, I believe I was complying with the sort of proactive policing because when you look at the statement of, that

statement of Mr Nangy, the address, it shows Midstream, Midstream Centurion. And I am aware that Mr Matlala is staying in Midstream Centurion.

Here I was saying to the brother, be careful, because there is a person of this character in your vicinity whom we have charged with regard to these charges. Be careful you, your kids, and your wife as you are moving around. And eventually, that is what I was doing to him. And if you look into section 205 of the constitution, it says:

10 “The SAPS is responsible to prevent,
 combat, and investigate crime.”

One of the things there. The others is the issue of the security of the country and so forth, that line. And then when you look into the strategies of the police, we are required to do proactive policing sometimes to prevent possible crimes that might happen because of this character of this person. So, I was just proactively warning him, be careful.

ADV HASSIM SC: We will return to this, but for now
20 ...[intervenes]

ADV BALOYI SC: I know you will return I just want you to clarify.

ADV HASSIM SC: Sure, I have a clarification as well, but go first, Commissioner.

ADV BALOYI SC: So, I just want to understand you, I

think earlier on you spoke about you generally discussed current affairs. So, I just want to understand which parts are current affairs and which parts are proactive policing.

MAJ-GEN SENONA: Look, this was also a current affair on the media. However, this one had an additional thing that I was trying to warn him about a person of this character that we have addressed in relation to kidnapping of ransom. It was on the news, we did share, it is also part and parcel of current affairs Commissioners. However, to a further
10 extent, I was just highlighting this, that be careful.

It is like if I know where the Commissioner is staying, there is a correct, and then we are close, we are friends. I will warn him, look at this complex of yours they are jamming the cars this way, this way. Be careful when you go there, when you lock the car, make sure you test the car is locked before you go into. That is the idea, that is what is happening here.

ADV BALOYI SC: Thank you. Yes, Ms Hassim.

MAJ-GEN SENONA: Thanks, Commissioner.

20 **ADV HASSIM SC:** Yes, so this is what you do, is you warn people. I mean, this is, I think the example you just gave to Commissioner Baloyi is also different. You might say, be careful because this type of crime is happening in your area, but what you did here was you gave Mr Matlala details of the alleged crimes and what Mr Nangy was being

investigated for.

MAJ-GEN SENONA: No.

ADV HASSIM SC: Is that not so?

MAJ-GEN SENONA: No, you see, when you look at the document that you gave us, Commissioners, I saw an affidavit of Nangy and the address. He was the subject of investigation, and he is still the head officer has taken over that investigation of the kidnapping. Now, what is happening is that you, when I picked up that, I just sent it to
10 him and these people, I believe that they are - somebody might have put this thing on the public domain because you will see there was also high court papers that they wanted to sue the police and everything are there. So, it is not the things that are within my office or whatever, it is things that were there in the public domain, I just sent the thing there.

ADV HASSIM SC: So, but you say it was to warn him because this individual had been arrested for very serious crimes.

MAJ-GEN SENONA: And he was out by then, yes.

20 **ADV HASSIM SC**: And yes, by now he is out, but when, you only forwarded this to him on the 10th of March after he was released.

MAJ-GEN SENONA: He was released ...[intervenes]

ADV HASSIM SC: But when was he, but you knew about this before the 10th of March.

MAJ-GEN SENONA: Which?

ADV HASSIM SC: This particular individual and the investigation into this individual and the arrest of this individual.

MAJ-GEN SENONA: I knew about the arrest, I knew about the case when it was withdrawn in court in January, but, sorry, the address of him, I was not aware of his address. I picked it up when I was reading that article then I said, eish, by the way, then I sent it.

10 **ADV HASSIM SC:** And that is when you then sent the information to Mr Matlala to say ...[intervenes]

MAJ-GEN SENONA: Because it was ...[intervenes]

ADV HASSIM SC: Here is the affidavit.

MAJ-GEN SENONA: Yes, it was there on the public domain, that is why I sent it. I must tell the Commissioners that I will never take information of the police that is in custody of the police and share it with any other person. I will never do that. It is not correct to do that, and I will never do that. When I took office, I signed an oath. I will
20 never do that. When I joined the police, I signed an oath. I will never do that. I have never done it, it is not going to happen, and it will never happen up until, even if I die, I am able to do it in the grave. It will never happen.

ADV HASSIM SC: But you did share this with Mr Matlala?

MAJ-GEN SENONA: This one, I shared it because it was

in the public domain.

ADV HASSIM SC: Because there was a media article already?

MAJ-GEN SENONA: Yes, it was there on the media.

ADV HASSIM SC: Okay.

MAJ-GEN SENONA: Yes.

ADV HASSIM SC: No, I understand. So, we will come back to this. I just want to make sure we get your ...[intervenes]

10 **MAJ-GEN SENONA:** No, I provided the answers.

ADV KHUMALO SC: Can we just clarify, what was shared exactly? Was it the newspaper article or the affidavit attached? I am just not clear what General shared with Mr Matlala. If you can just clarify that.

MAJ-GEN SENONA: Commissioner, that document was a bit big. I sent it through the, it is a newspaper. I think it is an article that was there. I think these people presented it somewhere and then it was leaked into the media. When you open it, you will see an affidavit and everything. I just
20 sent it, just to sensitise this one. And further to that, there is another one to show that it is them who leaked this thing on the news.

The other person who was arrested with them, he went and he was interviewed in Mpumalanga through a local, what you call, radio station there. And he also, his

statement, he also published it there. One of the accused persons on this thing. So, these things, they were published by them there. I mean, I just forwarded it. I did not take it for - when you look also at the case number that is depicted there, there is a date stamp of the police.

There is a case number that is depicted there. And then when I look at the date stamp, it talks about Bedford View, something like that. So, you saw that. Now, if you saw that, it is good. Bedford View is where? There is no
10 Bedford View in KwaZulu-Nata. Bedford View is here in Gauteng. This General Senona does not have access in those cases in order for him to leak information as it is alleged here. I do not have access. My profile on the access of the cases is limited to KwaZulu-Nata.

ADV HASSIM SC: The annexure, Commissioner Khumalo, is in EXHIBIT BUNDLE 1 at page 65, and it is about 220 pages long.

MAJ-GEN SENONA: And also, I believe that if you look at the document, there were people like General Mkhwanazi.
20 Let me rather not mention a lot of names. There were police officials there. I think five of them, if not four, who are listed in the high court applications, and all those things were attached there. So, someone, somewhere, somehow, might have leaked this thing that we came in to see, and then I did send that thing.

I must tell you that there is a high court application against the police by these individuals. There is a civil case that is underway as we speak here, and then I am just worried, Commissioners, that I do not want to elaborate too much on these things, but I am not listed on the issue of the civil claim of these things. Other people are listed there. Thank you, Commissioners.

ADV HASSIM SC: I mean, we will return to this, but is there anything else you want to say about, from your
10 perspective, about this particular incident, this investigation?

MAJ-GEN SENONA: Which investigation?

ADV HASSIM SC: Against this individual, your paragraph 74 and 75.

MAJ-GEN SENONA: I said head office, the DPCI, took over the investigation. After it was in March, they took the entire case documents and everything. So, they are continuing with the investigation with an understanding that they want to place it back on the court roll, because it was
20 withdrawn due to certain technicalities.

ADV HASSIM SC: You do not wish to expand on that?

MAJ-GEN SENONA: No, please.

ADV HASSIM SC: This was an investigation that was under your command. Is that not so?

MAJ-GEN SENONA: As the provincial head, yes.

ADV HASSIM SC: Okay.

MAJ-GEN SENONA: And you know the organigram of the Hawks at the province it is a general. General does not necessarily read dockets. It is a strategic position if I may say so. But it is. And then you have brigadiers. I have five brigadiers under me. And then one colonel. One brigadier deal with serious organised crime. Another one, serious Commission.

Another one, serious corruption. Another one,
10 priority crime specialised investigation. And then another one is corporate support services. And then a colonel who is dealing with priority crime management centre. So, these people, they are responsible to deal with operations at the unit level where we have colonels who are leading the units. And under the colonels, you have Lt-Col's who are team leaders, who are supposed to give instructions and give guidance into this docket. So, mainly, I sit at the strategic position. Thank you, Commissioners.

ADV HASSIM SC: This was an operation under your
20 command, yes?

MAJ-GEN SENONA: It was, the investigations was within my office, but component, serious organised crime.

ADV HASSIM SC: Yes, but it is under your - you have already said that. So, we will come back to it. I just wanted to give you an opportunity yourself if you wish to

say something more. You can continue.

MAJ-GEN SENONA: Question 8. Message is to Mr Matlala dated 24, 25, 24, April 2025, re Khumalo. This conversation between Lt-Gen Khumalo and I took place as I was facilitating a meeting between him and a third-party concerning matter under his division. Lt-Gen Khumalo can attest to this if he is called to come here. So, the screenshot was erroneously sent to the third party as evidence to facilitating the meeting.

10 It was intended to be sent to the third party because the third party was concerned that when am I taking him or her to that office in order to lodge his complaint. Now, this screenshot was erroneously sent to Matlala, and I proceeded to call him at 10:30 after I sent this to say, Mr Matlala, that thing was sent to you by mistake.

 So please do not entertain or consider it. I did that. But here, this is a critical information that this third party was supposed to give to Lt-Gen Khumalo, and it
20 involves his office. So, it is not within my area of responsibility. So, I took this person, this third party there and the third party was interviewed by General Khumalo and then I left it. I left it there.

 I never even enquired about any progress because it was within his space of responsibility. The next one is

question 9. Contact details of Mr Cele, 14 May 2025. Yes, indeed, Mr Matlala requested me the telephone number of the former Minister, General Cele. It is a common practise that he was having the contact details of General Cele. He told me, I do not know what happened to my phone.

I do not have this number. Innocently, I sent it. I did not even ask questions because I knew they were talking. I knew he was talking to the Minister. So, I sent it and then I did not see anything wrong in that, and I did not
10 ask why, what are the reasons you are looking for these contact details. I think now I want to go to question 10. The Port Shepstone drug theft.

Commissioners, on the 22nd of June 2021, a captain from crime intelligence, border security, our office is in Durban, regarding a drug-related information. The information related to the alleged transshipment of suspected cocaine with a container at the Isipingo depot. Isipingo is not far from the harbour. It is just a short distance.

20 Information was of an exigency nature and members of my office together with ORS, ORS is the border policing, that are posted there at the harbour. They proceeded to the depot to inspect the container. Warehouse security and staff were also present for the inspections. Upon inspections, the team discovered 27

canvas bags were found within the container.

Each bag contains around 20 bricks of cocaine, each brick weighing one kilogramme. The bricks of cocaine were wrapped in a black and yellow plastic detouring the TikTok and Jaquan logos. The total mass of the bricks amounted to 541 kilogrammes and a street value of 200 million. The DPCI members proceeded to Isipingo police station to book and store the exhibits of cocaine.

They were informed that there was no storage
10 space for the housing of these exhibits. The DPCI would have to search the alternative storage space. However, the exhibits could not be booked, could be booked into the SAP13 register at Isipingo, SAPS, and they signed them off because the SAP13 clerk could not want to take them as a result of the storage.

In the search of the storage, the team responsible for the seize of the drugs, they contacted the Amanzimtoti Forensic Service Laboratory, where I put the matter post seize file under the Detective and Division Forensic Service
20 Division. So, Colonel Khuzwayo from the section, the section head of chemistry at the forensic laboratory refused to accept the exhibits as they had no storage space for them.

One of the reasons that you gave is that that place was flooded previously and then they said they do not have

a storage facility to store these drugs. Normally, these drugs will be stored at the forensic science laboratory. Then, I was advised by a brigadier in my office who is responsible for this type of investigations that there was a secure storage facility at our offices in Port Shepstone offices with a storeroom walk in safe.

Safes such as this are difficult to break into and are ideal for the storage of this type of seize if we have this kind of challenges. I then I told that the Port Shepstone
10 offices had previously and safely stored a large quantity of Mandrax and hashish compressed dagga. I have attached an article on the Mandrax bust as Annexure S6. Due to the above, I agreed that the exhibits to be stored at the Port Shepstone offices and then I have informed my supervisor at that stage, Lt-Gen Libya, about the incident and the storage.

Lt-Col Prinsloo the unit commander of that office, the acting actually, arranged for the exhibit to be stored in the storeroom, walking safe, aside from the unit
20 commander, only Captain Le Roux, and Warrant Officer Van Loggerenberg and another one, a new Warrant Officer Pienaar, from that office, knew about the nature of the exhibits stored there.

I want to go back to, or maybe when I finish at the end, I must, I will talk to that S6. If you look at the S6

Commissioners, you see there are people on that picture. I do not want to call their names. Please allow me. And then if you zoom that picture there at the back, you see who is there? This drug bust took place in, I think it is July 2018, and the value of this drug bust was R254 million, 54 million over the one that was stolen at our offices.

These drugs were stored in this place. This place is the same place where these 541 kilograms was stolen into. This is the storage facility. When you look at this, 10 this face is people that are depicted in this picture, it is senior management. And this, it happened before my time. But I do not want to talk about the names of the people on the picture, but where they are, where this picture has been taken is exactly the place where these drugs were stolen.

I just want to bring that under the attention of the Commissioners, because it is not the first time these drugs are stored there until the investigation is finalised. You know, it is a pity I could not find another one for the hashish, compressed stuff that was also placed here until 20 the investigation was finalised. So, allow me to proceed. I wanted to talk about this, maybe offline. I will be able to tell you who is who in this picture, the names. Maybe you will know.

CHAIRPERSON: General, are you emphasising this to tell us that that previous event or storage gave you a sense of

comfort that there would be nothing the matter if you were again to store there?

MAJ-GEN SENONA: Hundred percent, Commissioner.

CHAIRPERSON: Thank you.

ADV KHUMALO SC: General, sorry, the date you wanted to emphasise, if you go to page 102, because the photo is on 101, and then at the top of 102, I thought the point you wanted to make was this was before your time, and that date is the date that we see in line 3 on page 102.

10 **MAJ-GEN SENONA**: Line?

ADV KHUMALO SC: Line 3 on page 102. Do you see the top of the page?

MAJ-GEN SENONA: Yes, there is one name that is shot here.

ADV KHUMALO SC: And then there is a date there. I thought you wanted to emphasise the date and to say this was before your time.

MAJ-GEN SENONA: It was before my time. I indicated it was July 2018.

20 **ADV KHUMALO SC**: Yes.

MAJ-GEN SENONA: Yes, Commissioner. So, so these names that are appearing there, there is one name short. I am not, please allow me not to mention, but you can see if you look deeper there, the back on the picture ...[intervenes]

ADV HASSIM SC: Sorry, Maj-Gen, why do you not want to mention the name? This is a media article. It is available ...[intervenes]

MAJ-GEN SENONA: Yes, but the media article Commissioners does not talk about this other name that I do not want to mention. But if I am compelled, I believe also I will be protected if I am going to mention that name, because the Commission, we must assist the Commission, and the Commission must also be able to protect us.

10 **CHAIRPERSON:** You are not suggesting that there was anything improper about this, are you? I mean, this was the storage of drugs and the picture consent, the fact that drugs had been found, and the people depicted there were there because of the drug past. Is that not so? Nothing improper about it. So, I guess Ms Hassim's point is, what is your problem with mentioning the names, or what is your issue?

MAJ-GEN SENONA: Okay, if I am requested to mention names, if the Commissioners are saying so, I will let you do so.

20 **CHAIRPERSON:** It is more wanting to understand why you do not want to mention them, especially if you accept that the context of justice cashed is correct. Do you accept that the context is correct?

MAJ-GEN SENONA: Is correct, Commissioners. Then allow me to mention names.

CHAIRPERSON: All right, thank you.

MAJ-GEN SENONA: The people on the picture, 101, you will see on your far right is General Sithole, the then National Commission of Police. Next to General Sithole is the Minister of Police, General Cele. Next to General Cele is the Provincial Commissioner of KwaZulu-Natal, Lt-Gen Mkhwanazi. Next to him is Lt-Gen Libya, the retired head of the Hawks. This one, who is putting a mask over him, can determine who is this person.

10 **CHAIRPERSON**: Thank you.

ADV HASSIM SC: Okay, thank you. I mean, this is a good news story, it is not?

MAJ-GEN SENONA: Of course.

ADV HASSIM SC: Okay, thanks.

MAJ-GEN SENONA: Of course. Commissioners, all access to the floors where the walk in safe was situated was granted only to cleaners, administrative personnel and members of the DPCI working at the offices. All the safe keys were given to me with the main key. Look, those type
20 of safe, they have a key and a spare key. For the purpose of safety, I took it upon myself to take these keys.

I am having a safe at my office that not one person will be able to remove it on his or her own, and then I kept those keys locked under that safe. And I also, during that person, I also informed the DPCI personnel when I took up

office and also on that day, when I took up office, you will visit all the offices, Commissioners. And when you visit all the offices, you will also give your vision, what is it that you want to see and what is it that people must do.

Among others, I verbally gave this task in that offices must be visited between 18H00 and 12 o'clock midnight. And then another person must visit two o'clock in the morning until between two and four. Our members, they will be placed on standby. We sign a garage in authority to
10 take the state vehicles to their premises. This is the practise that I was doing while I was the unit commander here in Pretoria, so that if there is anything that threatens the safety of our offices and the dockets that were carrying and so forth, we need to detect it at an early stage.

We cannot say it will never happen, but we need to detect it at an early stage. And then after doing that, visit an OB and to that effect, it needs to be done. Must be done. On the 23rd of June, between 08H00 and 15H00, as well as 24th of June 2021, between 08:57 and 14:10, the
20 investigation officer who was assigned to investigate this drug bust came to my office and he signed for one key. And then of the safe where the drugs were stolen. The proof of the offset is attached here to and marked Annexure S7. So, the purpose of me keeping the keys, I have already explained.

ADV HASSIM SC: Sorry, before you go to that, you said he took out one key, but in your statement, you say booked out the safe keys.

MAJ-GEN SENONA: It is a typing error.

ADV HASSIM SC: So that is incorrect. You want to change that?

MAJ-GEN SENONA: It is a typing error.

ADV HASSIM SC: So, you would like to change that?

MAJ-GEN SENONA: Key, because the other one was left
10 with me.

ADV HASSIM SC: Okay.

MAJ-GEN SENONA: So, they were going there to fetch, to take some samples, because during the bust, the forensic science laboratory told us, and I know it is affected, they do not go out to this drug bust. They come out if there is a clandestine laboratory where the lab is active. Whether a person is arrested or not, they come themselves there. They process the crime scene.

20 They wear their regalia there. They will take samples. But with this one, they did not. They say we are not coming. You must bring what you call the samples to us for analysis. The purpose of the IO to get the keys, it was to go there and get those samples and ensure that these things are properly sealed in the seal bags and everything, because I think when they went to store these things, it was

late in the afternoon.

So, I want to talk to the theft, the actual theft. After hours on Sunday, 7 November, at about 10 o'clock, we have a captain there who visited the office and is working there to collect some documents. And then he noticed, he said he noticed a strange electric smell, as if within the building. He proceeded to check the top offices, according to him. And he found everything to be involved.

CHAIRPERSON: What does the electricity smell like?

10 **MAJ-GEN SENONA:** Smell like electric smell. You see, when the cables are coming into negative and positive, they meet, they will cause a fire, some sort of spark, a fire, and then that kind of smell. That is my understanding, Commissioner.

CHAIRPERSON: All right, thank you.

MAJ-GEN SENONA: Yes, and then he left, and then he said he thought the smell was as a result of a load shedding that was there. And then around 11, he left. 14H00, another member came, and he did not smell anything
20 according to him. He proceeded to the office, and then without checking the bottom section, and then he left. On Monday, the 8th of November 2021, at 06H00, the unit commander arrived, and he went into his offices.

His offices are on the top. These safes are on the bottom. So, when you go to his office, you do not need,

there is no way from there to go to his office. You go from outside, and then he will enter from that side. There are stairs that are going higher up. And then he found, he said he found this strange, as all offices' lights are to be switched off, and at that time, the lights were on.

And then he said, on the same day, there was a warrant officer whose office was broken into, and then he established that his office has been broken into. And the warrant officer reported this to the Lt-Col, who was the
10 acting unit commander. The Lt-Col proceeded to inspect all the offices within the building and found that the walk in safe has been broken into.

Not only had it been broken into, but this is cocaine stored there in was stolen. The theft was reported to me, and I in turn reported it to the national head of the directorate, as well as the Provincial Commission, and the provincial head of crime intelligence. Then, immediately, I proceeded to the crime scene, Commissioners. Upon my arrival, I observed that the perpetrators gained entry into
20 the offices by means of a hardware next door.

CHAIRPERSON: Hardware store.

MAJ-GEN SENONA: Hardware store. Our offices next door, it was a hardware store. It was changed now. It is offices of another department. But this side it was a hardware store. It was closed and everything. So, I post

...[intervenes]

ADV HASSIM SC: So, the hardware store had an entrance into your office?

MAJ-GEN SENONA: No.

ADV HASSIM SC: You say they gained entry into the offices?

MAJ-GEN SENONA: I am about to explain that.

ADV HASSIM SC: By means of a hardware store. Next door.

10 **MAJ-GEN SENONA:** Through the hardware store, if I can rephrase that by means through the hardware store. So, I want to now explain my observations in full. Maybe if I may be allowed to do that, then I can respond to clarity seeking questions.

CHAIRPERSON: Yes.

MAJ-GEN SENONA: Commissioners, upon my arrival, this is my observation. I am going to outline it in full, although some of the things you will not find see them here. When I arrived, I realised that when you are parking in front of the
20 office, the hardware is on your left. The chain and the lock of the hardware was broken. And then, after that, we realised that the paper ...[intervenes]

CHAIRPERSON: What chain is this?

MAJ-GEN SENONA: It is a chain that they utilised to lock the gate.

CHAIRPERSON: Or gate.

MAJ-GEN SENONA: Yes, the main gate.

CHAIRPERSON: All right.

MAJ-GEN SENONA: It is a thick chain that was cut open and so is the lock. Then, from my observation, I could see that the perpetrators of this crime entered. They went inside the hardware. From the hardware, from the gate is about maybe 50, 60 metres. I do not have to exit metres and then ...[intervenes]

10 **CHAIRPERSON**: To the actual building?

MAJ-GEN SENONA: Inside the hardware yard. And then, there is a fence, a wall and a fence. And then, they jumped through that fence. You see, the fence is like here and then our offices are here. The hardware is this side. So, they came inside here, they jumped over here and break a window here.

CHAIRPERSON: The window is that the storage facility's window?

MAJ-GEN SENONA: No.

20 **CHAIRPERSON**: The hardware window?

MAJ-GEN SENONA: It is our office's window. An office that is occupied by one of our warrant officers.

CHAIRPERSON: Okay.

MAJ-GEN SENONA: And in that office, there was a desktop and some other valuables of his and the police staff

and cases. They broke that window. And then, if my memory serves me well, I think they were burglars. They bent them. And then, they came into his office. In his office, door was locked. Then, they broke the office door. When you go out of the office door, just two, three steps on your left, there is a door. And that door leads you, is a passage if you go inside there where there is this, I think it is two storerooms, these safes. We normally call them storerooms. And that type of a storeroom, the thickness of
10 the door is about 20 millilitres. 20 millilitres like this.

CHAIRPERSON: 30 millimetres.

MAJ-GEN SENONA: Thank you, Commissioner. The thickness is like this. It is very thick. So, I have observed and established that here, the people who came here have specialised skills. They specialise in cutting open the safe. Because if we talk about the issue of the loadshedding and everything, they had ample time.

CHAIRPERSON: Just, please hold your thoughts. You are at the point where you are talking about the people being
20 specialised. I just want to take you back two or three steps. What would have necessitated going through the premises of the hardware store? Why would the people not have just gone through your own offices in Port Shepstone?

MAJ-GEN SENONA: Commissioner, I do not know why they decided to come this side. But later we established

that there was a front door on the ground. There was some sort of a fiddling. That door is a magnetic door. And then I think it also have a lock where you must also use a key to open it. So, we established that there was a friddle ..[sic]. It was a bit friddle. But they decided not to cut it open and everything.

CHAIRPERSON: I guess what I am trying to understand, I know perhaps it changes nothing. But what I want to understand is why not go over your wall and then to Officer
10 Pienaar's window or wherever else to gain access. Why the hardware premises?

MAJ-GEN SENONA: I believe they wanted to because after they broke that gate, the chain of the gate, they pushed it. It was pushed almost half open. Just a smaller space was left. And it is a street here. If you break here in front, any person who will pass there will be able to pick you up. That is something that is not right here. So, if you go inside there, I am thinking, I am afraid to use these words, they wanted to also be not to be seen quickly.

20 **CHAIRPERSON:** Okay, please go back to where you were. These people had highly specialised skills.

MAJ-GEN SENONA: Yes, because it is not an ordinary person who will come and know that I am cutting this safe here and then I will be able to open it. That is my observation. And further to that, the way this thing

happened, I also came to a conclusion that it was not two or three people. It is a group of people. Because 541 kilogrammes of cocaine, five people will never take everything and go away.

And they must have a proper transport to transport these things. And then I believe they might also have people who had guns. And from there, after they broke, they opened, they threw out those things. When I approached the passage of the safe, there were a lot of
10 black powder substance on the floor. A lot of that. And then you could see that the bags, the exhibit police bags, that these drugs were packed into some of them we saw I think, two or three from that window where they came in, which shows that these people, not one person came in, several of them who came in through that window because any other place was never broken into.

They took these drugs and exited where they entered. Then when I observed with my naked eye, I could not see any footprints or palm prints on the entrance where
20 it was broken. So, Commissioners, one cannot do away with the fact that these people who came to steal these drugs, my heart is still bleeding. Now it is bleeding, it is pumping. My adrenaline is starting to change because this thing happened under my watch and it will never be erased in my mind.

It is an indictment on its own. So, what happened there, someone who knows that place and who knew these things were there, sold us out. And then it is my plea and prayer that the investigation team would be successful to arrest this perpetrator so that they can come and tell us who gave them the information and how and why did they do this, what happened to these drugs.

As I am processing the crime scene, the crime scene management came from the province to come and
10 process the crime scene. They processed, they obtained a photograph, and they do fingerprints and everything. Then I said, we are the complainants, Commissioners. We cannot be complainants and investigate. The district in that place area must assist us with an investigator.

We will assist to try and get things. I tasked my people to look into the cameras around the vicinity and everything and to start to do those things and then I brought them. Sometimes there are certain strategies. I did not want to make them public. Some people in our country will
20 know, oh, this is what they are doing. Then they will avert. So, I do not know if I am worried to just expose our strategies. Please bear with me.

I will just be vague. But if needed be, I will come and explain properly. So, we did everything there. There is something called cell phone dumping. I am not going to

explain it. We did that. I brought the people, and then I took my people to go there. We have people that are dealing with this thing of footages. I am just worried to use the exact name that we talk about when we talk about these things.

But while we were busy with that, what I did, I requested, I wrote a letter. I think my letter is S9 and S10. The docket was open. It was investigated by the district office. And then I gave a team to assist with the
10 investigation. While we were busy with that, I request that I wrote a letter in compliance with the provision of the act to subject all the personnel at the Port Shepstone offices to polygraph tests, as well as all the people who were involved in the seizing of these drugs, as well as those who assisted, because you cannot just transport cocaine with only four or three people.

You must have a contingent of people, because what if you are attacked? Because it happened a lot that I pay from my office after these other seizures that I talked
20 about earlier, pay from my office to get the combat teams to transport the drugs to Pretoria. Now, while I was doing that, the national head of the directorate approved the subjection of these members to polygraph tests. Maybe one might say, why is your name not there? I cannot do it, Commissioner.

CHAIRPERSON: I actually wanted to ask why you do not offer to also be subjected to the polygraph test.

MAJ-GEN SENONA: No, the act does not say I must offer. It must be the national head who might supervise or must subject me to that. It is not a common cause to subject yourself.

CHAIRPERSON: My point of the matter is you wanted all the people that were aware of the storage of the drugs to be subjected to a polygraph test. You did not need to have the
10 head to subject you to it, so you could have offered for that to be done, for transparency. So, these officers know that he himself has also subjected himself to it. Why did you not do it?

MAJ-GEN SENONA: I hear you, Commissioner. It never crossed my mind that I must also include myself. In my mind is that if I have to do that, my boss will do it, will instruct me. Because even myself, I do not have the authority to do that. I apply, he approves, according to the act.

20 **CHAIRPERSON**: Thank you, please continue.

MAJ-GEN SENONA: Thank you, Commissioner. Even if when you see my SC10 is, I think, an additional letter of some people that were supposed to go through that, what you call, polygraph test in relation to that. And you will see there was a – okay, let us see. Thank you. And then when

you look at SC11, a team was established by national office, there is a name listed of the team that was established.

One member was from my office who was placed there. But what I saw at the later stage, the member was no more working with the team. The reasons why I do not know because I thought he was working with the team. This team came up, it was established, the names were sent to me to show that if you want to, I want to talk about, allow
10 me to read it, sorry Commissioners.

ADV HASSIM SC: This team is, is this, are you referring to 114 of your statement?

MAJ-GEN SENONA: One, page 124, on my bundle of documents.

ADV HASSIM SC: And 114 of your - okay, it is the same team.

MAJ-GEN SENONA: Yes, so you will realise that this team in paragraph 6 of bundle of documents 125, page 125, paragraph 6, it says:

20 “The members will be required to report -
this is an instruction Commissioners,
directly to the component head series
organised crime investigation. There is a
name there on the 1st of December until
the investigation is finalised. The team

will draft a detailed investigation plan with timelines which will determine the required time for handling this case. There will be weekly progress meeting to be chaired by the deputy national head of the DPCI to monitor the investigations.”

You will see also on the name list, also on this paragraph, General Senona was excluded from participating in this investigation. But I want to bring under your attention that
10 in my mind that it never worried me. If they want to start the approach of the investigation, they want to start inwards, sorry, inwards, outward, because there is that type of a methodology.

It is okay, it never worried me, why am I excluded? It was okay. So, on the - I think it was - we were here in Pretoria at the Capital Hotel. While I met, I think it is in January. I met with the team or before January, I think I want to check the date proper. We, I briefed on the 29th of November. I briefed the established team and handed over
20 everything that was in my possession.

So, Commissioners, I want to also add that the result of the polygraph test that I have requested and was approved by the national head, I have never received any, any results. And since the docket was taken, they took the case docket and investigated it. No reports or no, any other

thing was provided. I cannot even tell what the current status of the investigation is, but this team will be able to say what have they found out, what is what and what is what. So eventually, I want to say that the enquiry ...[intervenes]

ADV KHUMALO SC: Just so that your testimony is consistent with your statement, I believe you were in 116 on page 31.

MAJ-GEN SENONA: 116, yes, that is the ...[intervenes]

10 **ADV KHUMALO SC:** But the name of the hotel you gave and the year were different. So, can you just confirm that?

MAJ-GEN SENONA: It is 2021.

ADV KHUMALO SC: Yes, and it was Menlyn Main Hotel and not the one you mentioned in your testimony.

MAJ-GEN SENONA: What have I said?

ADV KHUMALO SC: Capital Hotel.

MAJ-GEN SENONA: The hotel here is Capital Hotel.

ADV KHUMALO SC: Which one?

MAJ-GEN SENONA: It is in Menlyn Maine ...[intervenes]

20 **ADV KHUMALO SC:** Yes, ...[intervenes]

MAJ-GEN SENONA: Capital Hotel.

ADV KHUMALO SC: Is that the name of the hotel.

MAJ-GEN SENONA: Yes, I omitted to say Capital Hotel.

ADV KHUMALO SC: Okay.

MAJ-GEN SENONA: We were having a interactions with

the foreign law enforcement there.

ADV KHUMALO SC: And the year we have it correct is 2021.

MAJ-GEN SENONA: 2021, Commissioner.

ADV KHUMALO SC: Thank you.

MAJ-GEN SENONA: Thank you very much for the assistance and the enquiry reference number. The enquiry reference number that of the Caesar, they also took it this team that was established by national office. So, in relation
10 to the investigation and progress thereof, I do not have anything to say further because I was not privy to those briefings and nobody briefed me. Commissioners, in conclusion, I want to say ...[intervenes]

ADV BALOYI SC: General, before you go to your topic of conclusion, just so that it is not lost on me the import of this evidence about the drug bust and the exhibits being lost, you have discussed it in quite a detail in your statement. It is nearly 10 pages. And noticeably, it is the longest discussion you have in your statement, in your written
20 statement compared to the other topics.

MAJ-GEN SENONA: Yes.

ADV BALOYI SC: Why are you telling us this? Is it of what relevance and what do you want us to take - to keep in mind as you testify, if anything, as you testify and as we hear other witnesses. Because it is not obvious to me. I

ask precisely because it is not obvious to me why you are telling us about the bust ...[intervenes]

MAJ-GEN SENONA: The drug bust ...[intervenes]

ADV BALOYI SC: Yes, about the drug bust and the theft.

MAJ-GEN SENONA: Yes. Commissioners, in the subpoena, this topic was there. That is why I am responding. I am telling the Commissioners about these things. I do not know what the relevance of this is, but on the subpoena, it was listed there.

10 **ADV BALOYI SC**: You have answered me. Thank you, General. You do not need to say more. Thank you.

MAJ-GEN SENONA: Now I also want to say that the issue of the storage there bring under your attention that, in relation to the storage there, I think there is a national instruction that says the DPCI with the approval of the head can store these things, can store the exhibits at a facility that is South African SONS. I think it is SONS, South African National Standards.

20 When you look at the safe, it comprises of those standards, those requirements. It is a strong room. Even the walls, it is going to take you too long, a person too long, to break those walls and get into that. What one has done, Commissioners, it was done *bona fide*. In my conclusion, I want to ...[intervenes]

ADV HASSIM SC: Sorry, I did not hear that it was done on

a?

MAJ-GEN SENONA: *Bona fide*, in good faith.

ADV HASSIM SC: Understood.

MAJ-GEN SENONA: Thank you. I want to say it is of vital importance that we revert to the Rule 3, as the Commission will note that I have not leaked sensitive or confidential or classified information of SAPS to Mr Matlala. You go back to that letter that it was a bone of contention this morning, Commissioners, when you look at it, although it was a bone
10 of contention, but it is not a classified document.

Classification of documents is governed by the missed document. The missed document says when you classify a document, the classification of documents is confidential/restricted. The second one, it will be secret. It shall be written on top and at the bottom. The third one, it will be top secret. But these are the things that I am accused of, that I have leaked sensitive and classified - I mean classified documents to Mr Matlala. It is not.

The things that I have shared with Mr Matlala, they
20 were in a public domain. There was nothing that I took from my office and gave it to Mr Matlala to assist him. Most of the documents that seem confidential were infected by Mr Matlala, according to what I have read here. The allegations are false and are devoid of merit. They are merely speculative in nature, Commissioners.

Lt-Gen Khumalo and Witness X were hard pressed to provide evidence that proved such a leakage of information before this Commission. Had the above figures conducted the investigation diligently, they would have found that the affidavits by Mr Nangy, who had already been leaked in the media. It is a common question amongst myself and multiple witnesses at the Commission that the disbandment letter was leaked to the public on the 1st of January.

10 Utilisation of my office, using my position as a provincial head to and truly benefit Mr Matalal or the Big Five. I never used my position or influence to secure any commercial opportunities for my son through Mr Matlala. Abuse of power or position as the provincial head of the deep side to influence benefit of Mr Matlala or the Big Five shown an interest and questionable concern in protecting Matlala.

20 Of importance to note is that there is no evidence before the Commission to suggest otherwise. The baseless allegations by Witness X, Lt-Gen Khumalo have caused a significant reputational harm on myself. They have further disrupted command cohesion and introduced unnecessary tensions within the DPCI KZN ranks. They have further caused an equal measure of harm to my son as the allegations have caused him a significant loss of income.

Currently, Commissioners, he is running a scholarship business. And then you sign contract with people, then they come and extend the contract. Some they just come in year. He lost a lot of kids. So now there is a problem of him paying his buses, the loans, the high purchase thing. So, Commissioners, ...[intervenes]

CHAIRPERSON: You said scholarship and I hear you talk about buses. It could be you mean school transport.

MAJ-GEN SENONA: Yes, he is there now currently.

10 **CHAIRPERSON**: Okay.

MAJ-GEN SENONA: Because what they do, if this is not working, bringing any income, they venture into a lot of things. So, Commissioners, I think we need to be protected before I conclude. I have been summoned at the head office by my current supervisor. I was provided with a notice of alleged misconduct because of the testimony by Witness X here and Witness C.

20 And further to that, I was provided with a notice of temporary transfer. And this thing happened Friday, this past Friday, Commissioners. And that is a problem. We cannot be intimidated when we are supposed to come and give evidence here because this is a *modus operandi* because it disorientates you, your mind, in order to be testifying here and be to your sound and sober senses.

You will realise that although some of the

witnesses never testified here, they testified at the Ad-Hoc committee. They were visited just a week or a few days before they were testifying. It is my humble prayers to you, Commissioners. We are your witnesses. Although there are allegations against us, we need to be protected here. And then I am of the view that why they never left this thing for me to testify, they can even wait for you to make a determination and deal with me or come and give me these things after I have testified.

10 It is something that raised serious concerns to me, Commissioners. Now I must respond this Friday why must I not be transferred? And in my considered view, I do not know why I must be transferred. But I have to go and I have to write a representation. So, I believe that one is being treated unfair. So, I wanted to bring this to your good self, Commissioners.

 And it is not good. It is seriously not good. It is affecting one's health, or seriously so. And it is also affecting the relations in my own home and my family at
20 large. It is a serious problem. I need to be allowed to come here and testify. If there is any wrongdoing that is found on myself, I must go and answer must be dealt with. But I must not be intimidated before I come and testify before this Commission.

 Because it is very disturbing. It is very disturbing,

Commissioners. And I also, in conclusion, want to say, I want to thank your good selves for giving me the opportunity to come here and give you my side of the story. And my side of the knowledge that I am heavy with these allegations and everything. And these allegations are free for us and baseless. Commissioners, I thank you.

CHAIRPERSON: Thank you, General. But we are not done as you are probably aware. What is to come next is, I do not know what adjective has been used, but the more
10 probing questioning. So that will start after lunch. Thank you. Let us see you after lunch. Let us adjourn until 2 pm.

ADV HASSIM SC: Thank you, Chair.

CHAIRPERSON: Thank you.

INQUIRY ADJOURNS

INQUIRY RESUMES

CHAIRPERSON: General, my understanding is that an agreement reached between the parties in a discussion, of course, that took place before us Commissioners is that you must please re-read from the paragraph that says:

20 “I am still going to that committee and I
 hope it does not ...”

 You see that?

MAJ-GEN SENONA: Yes, Commissioner.

CHAIRPERSON: Yes. And then when you get to the names, you mention the first name and you do not, you will

see how you refer to the other name and maybe you will say and Mr So-and-So, or whatever. And then when you go on and come to the first name again, you mention it throughout. And your attorney came to you and said, you understand and you are fine with that.

MAJ-GEN SENONA: I do understand, Commissioner. That is correct, he did come and tell me.

CHAIRPERSON: Thank you very much, General. And so please start re-reading and read from this paragraph, “I am
10 still going to that committee”.

MAJ-GEN SENONA: Thank you, Commissioners.

“I am still going to that committee, and
I hope he does not mind me exposing
him to both Sibiya and Mr So-and-So.”

Or rather say Mr Y?

CHAIRPERSON: Whatever you choose, whatever you choose, General.

MAJ-GEN SENONA: I like So-and-So.

CHAIRPERSON: It is fine, it is fine.

20 **ADV HASSIM SC**: Sorry, Chair, I am confused now because when the General first started reading, I think, can you start from the beginning of the text, because I think now ...[intervenes].

CHAIRPERSON: All right.

ADV HASSIM SC: You missed a paragraph.

CHAIRPERSON: Right from the beginning.

ADV HASSIM SC: Yes.

CHAIRPERSON: It is fine, it is fine, it is fine. I guess I was avoiding that, because it would be the third time now, but it is fine, it is fine.

ADV HASSIM SC: But it is an important paragraph, which has now been missed.

CHAIRPERSON: Yes. No, I am happy. I am happy, Ms Hassim. Thank you.

10 **ADV HASSIM SC:** Thanks. You start from the beginning of the text. So as I understand it, what you have, says:

“Hi, General, I trust you are well.”

That is how it starts. You made arrangements that, start from there and go all the way to the end.

MAJ-GEN SENONA: Thank you, Commissioners.

20 “Hi, General, I trust that you are well. You made arrangements that I meet this guy, Cat, because he is your friend and brother, and he needed my help to speak to General Nkhuoa to place orders on his contract. He volunteered and information about the house address in Sandton where Sibiya collects money using the state vehicle and that he paid two million towards

Sibiya's purchase of his plot. He also told me about Sibiya's townhouse. The fact that he is the one who introduced our meeting at the Ad Hoc committee and lied under oath, he invited me to make public the information that he gave me, which will put his life at risk. I am still going to that committee and I hope he does not mind me exposing him to both Sibiya and Mr So-and-So. I hope you will not blame me for risking his life because I have to tell the truth about our meeting. If he thinks he can fool the committee, it is okay, but I will not say much, but to simply play a recording of our meeting verbatim, because I have the record. What is worse is that after you told me about the discussion between you and him regarding Nengi, I asked you about your relationship with him. I still do not know how the two of you met to discuss about Nengi. Besides voice recordings, cellular phones and triangulation and my vehicle tracker,

including access footage, will confirm the date and time of our meeting and for his own sake, I hope that those timelines are in line with what he said before the committee in relation to his arrest. This man says he met you seven years ago, which is contradicting what you told me that you grew up together. I guess this will become clear as the investigation continues.”

10

That concludes the messages, Commissioners.

CHAIRPERSON: Thank you. Ms Hassim, because we have been going on this way and later on this, I must apologize to you. I thought the bit about the payment of the two million and so on, I thought it was still to come.

ADV HASSIM SC: Okay.

CHAIRPERSON: So apologies ...[intervenes].

ADV HASSIM SC: No problem, Chair.

CHAIRPERSON: For my confusion in that regard. Yes, Ms Hassim?

20

ADV HASSIM SC: So, thank you ...[intervenes].

ADV BALOYI SC: Ms Hassim, before, can, will we get the correct ...[intervenes].

ADV HASSIM SC: Yes, I have requested that.

ADV BALOYI SC: Transcript of that.

ADV HASSIM SC: And Mr Baloyi ...[intervenes].

ADV BALOYI SC: Okay, thank you.

ADV HASSIM SC: No relation to Commissioner Baloyi is, that we know of, he is, has undertaken to provide that to the Commission. At the end of this message, Major General, there is a TikTok video. What is the content of that?

MAJ-GEN SENONA: I did not open that. You know, this messages, Commissioners, they came as some sort of intimidating to me. What I did, I just screenshot them and
10 sent them to my attorney, because for me, this was unbecoming. Why must I get these messages, for what? So I sent them to my attorneys that this is the messages I am getting because I have already contracted them or requested their legal assistance with regard to me appearing at the Commission, whatever comes my way that is talking to the issues of the Commission, I must communicate with them.

I must also say that my attorneys wrote a letter requesting the alleged recording in these messages. The
20 letter, there was an acknowledgement of the letter, but the recordings never reached us till today. And those, these recordings that are said, of that meeting, we have not yet received until this day.

ADV HASSIM SC: Thanks, but that meeting is the meeting that you were present at, so you know what happened in

that meeting.

MAJ-GEN SENONA: Come again?

ADV HASSIM SC: The recording is a recording of a meeting at which you were present, is that not so?

MAJ-GEN SENONA: As I have indicated in my statement, I was present.

ADV HASSIM SC: Yes. Okay, so I also just need some clarity about whether, so you received this. Did you respond to Lieutenant General Mkhwanazi?

10 **MAJ-GEN SENONA**: I did not.

ADV HASSIM SC: You did not reply?

MAJ-GEN SENONA: I did not. I just forwarded this to my attorneys.

ADV HASSIM SC: And you had no further contact telephonically or otherwise with him?

MAJ-GEN SENONA: With who?

ADV HASSIM SC: With Lieutenant General Mkhwanazi.

MAJ-GEN SENONA: The General?

ADV HASSIM SC: Ja.

20 **MAJ-GEN SENONA**: No, we never spoke after this.

CHAIRPERSON: You spoke at the same time there. I am just saying with Lieutenant General Mkhwanazi. I am just thinking of the transcription.

MAJ-GEN SENONA: Advise me, Commissioner?

CHAIRPERSON: I am saying you spoke at the same time

with Advocate Hassim and you spoke over her when she was mentioning with Lieutenant General Mkhwanazi. I just wanted to mention the name because the transcription will not show it if you spoke at the same time.

MAJ-GEN SENONA: Yes, with the Lieutenant General Mkhwanazi. Thank you, Commissioner.

ADV HASSIM SC: Now, I would like to understand from you why you considered this to be intimidation of you. And I ask you because what it, one interpretation of this is that
10 General Mkhwanazi sent you this to say, and judging from the text is that you made the arrangements for him to meet Cat Matlala. In that meeting, he volunteered information about General Sibiya and others.

And now that he is the one that has introduced this meeting, but not given the full story, it means that General Mkhwanazi is going to go to the Ad Hoc committee and give the full story, and that he is letting you know this. And he is saying to you that when he does so, that may put your friend, Cat Matlala, at risk because it exposes him in the,
20 because he is given information, right, that he is informed on people, right. So I am putting to you that that is an interpretation of this. Why do you see that as an intimidation of you?

MAJ-GEN SENONA: Commissioners, I believe it is the first time the Commissioners get to know about this meeting,

because of this Commission get to know about this meeting from me to you. And this messages came to me before I come here. And then when you get these type of messages, you, one get an insinuating situation that, do not talk about this. As you are analysing, the advocate is analysing and giving a perspective of her analysis on these, Commissioners.

For me, it came because I am supposed to go and testify and then Mr Matlala spoke about this at the Ad Hoc
10 committee. And then all of, when you get this type of messages, what does it say to one? That, be careful, do not talk about this. I am going to that committee. It was never talked about that, what you call, and you must remember, Commissioners, I took an oath this morning to tell the truth. You said to me, tell the truth, nothing else but the truth. That is the feeling that I have got when I receive this thing. And I am here to come and tell the truth and assist the Commission to deliver its objectives.

ADV HASSIM SC: But you would agree that there is
20 nothing in the text in where he says to you, do not go and testify about this meeting?

MAJ-GEN SENONA: I agree that it is not there, but the sense of this messages that I have received it with, it gives me an impression that be careful. So that is the feeling I had when I got this message. That is why immediately

thereafter, I send it to my attorneys. And I have never responded to him because you will see other messages were deleted by him that he sent to me and I do not know the content of that.

It leaves one to, a lot to be desired for what was actually in that messages that were deleted by him, not by this, by the General, not by this app of disappearing messages after 24 hours. But the General himself deleted these messages that he sent to me and I strongly believe
10 that these messages also was talking to the same issue because it is after Mr Matlala has testified at the Ad Hoc committee. It shaked me. I wish somebody was there to see how I was feeling, but I was rattling when I get these messages. Thank you, Commissioners.

ADV KHUMALO SC: General, there is a part that I do not understand about what you have just said now. You said your reading of this message is that you must be careful. Careful about what?

MAJ-GEN SENONA: That is what came into my mind,
20 Commissioner, that, hey, you be careful. You know, what came into my mind is careful about anything. We are members of the police, and I think as we move on, you will realize that also these things that are happening to me, these letters that I am getting that I have indicated earlier, after my attorneys have sent this letter and we did not

receive anything, and the General did not talk about this in this Commission né, it ignites fear in one.

And when you look at this, I was supposed to testify on the 26th. I was here. From here, I went out. My lawyers, we get these things, we send, they write him a letter and everything. All of a sudden, if I was supposed to be issuing, issued with a letter of transfer and everything, it should have happened last year. Now that we wrote a letter, these messages came. I sent it to my attorney.

10 They sent a letter with these attachments to him to give us the recordings. Then I received this thing. You see what is happening now, Commissioners.

ADV HASSIM SC: Then you received what thing?

MAJ-GEN SENONA: I received a notice of temporary transfer and a notice of alleged misconduct regarding the allegations that were made against me before this Commission.

ADV HASSIM SC: And so you are saying that General Mkhwanazi is behind that letter of transfer?

20 **MAJ-GEN SENONA:** I have never said that, Commissioners. I am telling you the events that are unfolding after these things and that, it gives me a serious problem.

ADV HASSIM SC: We will come back to that ...[intervenes].

MAJ-GEN SENONA: [Indistinct]... [cross-talking].

ADV HASSIM SC: Can I, sorry, finish.

MAJ-GEN SENONA: It gives me a serious problem that, why, because I did check with my supervisor that, are you saying everybody who was mentioned at the Commission is subjected to what I am subjected to? And the answer was no, it depends from one supervisor to another. Thank you, Commissioners. This thing is making me emotional because I sometimes take it, it has become personal, not the
10 Commission, but what is happening around me. And on a serious note, I do not like it and I do not want it at all. And hence, earlier before we break for lunch, I requested for protection from the Commission, if they can so that I must not be subjected to this kind of things. If I have to be subjected, let it happen at the right time or earlier. I must not be ambushed. Thank you, Commissioners.

ADV HASSIM SC: Major General, when did you receive this letter again, it was ...[intervenes].

MAJ-GEN SENONA: Friday the 23rd – sorry, sorry.

20 **ADV HASSIM SC:** [Indistinct]... text. November last year.

ADV BALOYI SC: 24.

MAJ-GEN SENONA: 26 of November.

ADV HASSIM SC: 2025.

MAJ-GEN SENONA: Ja, the very same date.

ADV HASSIM SC: Yes.

MAJ-GEN SENONA: Sorry for interjecting. Please ...[indistinct] [intervenes].

ADV HASSIM SC: Just answer the question. 26 November 2025?

MAJ-GEN SENONA: Correct.

ADV HASSIM SC: Okay. And the letter of transfer you received this last Friday?

MAJ-GEN SENONA: You mean the text né? Can I take you back a little bit? You mean when did I receive the text,
10 this message?

ADV HASSIM SC: You said you received this message, this text from General Mkhwanazi ...[intervenes].

MAJ-GEN SENONA: [Indistinct]... [cross-talking].

ADV HASSIM SC: 29 November 2025.

MAJ-GEN SENONA: No.

ADV HASSIM SC: 26 November 2025.

MAJ-GEN SENONA: Correct.

ADV HASSIM SC: Right. But you have spent some time speaking to the Commission about your grievance that you
20 received a letter of transfer this past Friday. Is that correct, you received it this Friday past?

MAJ-GEN SENONA: Correct. I received the letter of intended transfer on the 23rd of January 2026.

ADV HASSIM SC: Right.

MAJ-GEN SENONA: As well as a notice of misconduct

investigations ...[intervenes].

ADV HASSIM SC: All right.

MAJ-GEN SENONA: That is emanating from the Commission in relation to ...[intervenes].

ADV HASSIM SC: No, no.

MAJ-GEN SENONA: I am trying to answer Commissioners, in relation to the evidence of witness C and witness X before this Commission. Those documents I have them, but I am just bringing to the attention of the Commission now,
10 what is it that I am subjected to over and above what I am supposed to come and testify here.

ADV HASSIM SC: What ...[intervenes].

CHAIRPERSON: General, sorry, sorry, Ms Hassim. General, when you right at the end under your concluding remarks made this same point that you are making about the treatment that is being meted out to you, I agonized over that and I asked myself whether I need to respond at all to that, and I even whispered to both my colleagues about whether I should say anything. And my inclination
20 was not to say anything, and my co-Commissioners also said independently of each other that I should not say anything at that stage.

Now I have not consulted with them and they are probably going to be angry with me, but I thought I should just bring to your attention what our terms of reference

provide. They provide that we may make referrals in respect of individuals to whatever bodies. That is a power that we have and it is a power that we do not have to exercise only after a witness has testified. The person may just have been mentioned and based on the mention, we are entitled to make referrals before that person.

And those referrals may be for criminal investigations or that the people be charged or that there be disciplinary proceedings against the people or even for an
10 employer to consider whether to suspend the person. And all of those in terms of the terms of reference may happen even before the affected person has testified.

So I am just saying it is something that is open in terms of the terms of reference. And if that may happen in terms of a referral by us, I do not quite see why if an employer, or if it is a context outside of employment, whoever has the power, I do not see why not they cannot exercise that power even without the Commission having made a referral. I am stating that just to say to you, I do
20 not necessarily consider that to be unfair. If there is a basis for it to be done, it does not have to wait until a person has testified.

I understand how it may affect you as an individual and how it may cause you to grieve over it. That I understand perfectly. But I just want to disabuse your mind

of this idea that it is something that should never, ever happen. If it happens in terms of a referral, I do not see why it should not happen even outside of a referral. I thought I should just clear that up. Thank you, General.

MAJ-GEN SENONA: Commissioner, I hear and I fully understand the challenge.

CHAIRPERSON: And please, please, lastly, what I have said has nothing to do with the merits or demerits of the action that is being taken against you by your employer.

10 Thank you.

MAJ-GEN SENONA: My only challenge is the manner in which it was done. That is why I am raising it before you, Commissioners, the manner in which it was done and the timing of it. That is where the challenge is. If my supervisor believes I have done anything wrong, by all means. But the question of timing, the first witness testified, he had talked about me back then in, towards end of September. It should have happened there and there. But why when I am about to come and testify? The manner

20 in which it was done, not that it is done. Thank you, Commissioners.

CHAIRPERSON: Thank you. Thank you, General. Yes, Ms Hassim?

ADV HASSIM SC: Thank you, Commissioner. And on that note, I will move off where I was, because the Major

General seemed to be linking this text message with the letter of transfer and all of that, but I think we have now cleared that up, so I am not going to go there. I would rather focus on the content of this exchange, of this message. You say you were rattled when you received it, and you have accepted that nowhere in this message does General Mkhwanazi say to you, or warn you, do not go and talk about these things or this meeting. You have accepted that. I mean, to the contrary, he is saying that he is now
10 going to be open about the meeting. Are you not rattled because you discovered that there is a recording of the meeting? Is that not the cause for your feeling shaken by it?

MAJ-GEN SENONA: I am not rattled because of that. I was definitely being disturbed. But my legal team requested that. I am also looking forward, let him play it. I am looking forward because that is why we requested it so that my attorneys can do the transcripts and assist the Commission. I am looking forward as well. But that, these
20 messages, they rattled me as a person when you find this type of things. What happened instantly within you, do not have a control. The adrenaline, when you get these type of things, you do not have control of the adrenaline to say, this is what must happen, this is what must not happen.

But I did rattle. It is not because of I am worried

about the recording. It does not worry me. It will tell the truth, what he said to him and what he, the other one, said, what the General said to him and what Mr Matlala said to the General. I am willing, I am looking forward for those recordings if they do exist.

ADV HASSIM SC: He also says that you made the arrangements for him to meet Mr Matlala for the purposes of helping with this contract.

MAJ-GEN SENONA: Must I respond?

10 **ADV HASSIM SC:** Yes, please.

MAJ-GEN SENONA: I vehemently deny that.

ADV HASSIM SC: You did not make any arrangements with General Mkhwanazi to meet Mr Matlala?

MAJ-GEN SENONA: I have never made arrangements with General Mkhwanazi to meet, for the meeting with Mr Matlala. The only thing that happened, Mr Matlala asked me to accompany him there, and then I think he told the former Minister that he will be coming with me, and then, as a result, I believe that the General knew that I was coming
20 with Mr Matlala.

ADV HASSIM SC: And so were there any, if we were to look at communications around this time, there was no communication between you and General Mkhwanazi regarding this meeting?

MAJ-GEN SENONA: The date, on the date of the meeting?

ADV HASSIM SC: Or just before the meeting or around the date of the meeting.

MAJ-GEN SENONA: I doubt if there is that communication regarding the meeting. Communication would, between me and General Mkhwanazi mostly is work-related and he is the one who will call me and say, come to my office. Sometimes he will tell me I want one, two, three, come and brief me what exactly is happening here. And then I will prepare and go to him and give the explanation. If he need
10 it over the phone, it is urgent, I would say it over the phone. And you will get mostly we were even talking on WhatsApp calls. It was not this straight calls.

ADV HASSIM SC: Okay. So, Chair, this took us out of sequence because the witness wanted to deal with it. We are going to have to come back to it because it deals with a very important issue, which is the meeting of the 15 April. So, General, we will return.

CHAIRPERSON: Before you step off, just one very minor question on the text. General, please find on the phone the
20 part that says:

“This is the man who says he met you
seven years ago.”

On the phone, the text, the text.

MAJ-GEN SENONA: Oh, on the phone.

CHAIRPERSON: Yes, yes.

MAJ-GEN SENONA: Okay, Commissioner. They are still helping me. I am here, Commissioner.

CHAIRPERSON: So it says:

“This is the man who says he met you seven years ago, which is contracting - but I think that is supposed to be contradicting - what you told me, that you grew up together.”

Is it correct that you told General Mkhwanazi that
10 you grew up together, you and Mr Matlala grew up together?

MAJ-GEN SENONA: No, I did not tell the General that me and Mr Matlala, we grew up together. We know each other, but we never grew up together.

CHAIRPERSON: Thank you.

MAJ-GEN SENONA: I am ...[incomplete].

CHAIRPERSON: Yes, yes, yes.

MAJ-GEN SENONA: I am now 59 years.

CHAIRPERSON: Yes.

MAJ-GEN SENONA: Seven months. Tomorrow is the 28th.
20 It is fully 59 years, seven months. Mr Matlala, I think he is 48, 49 there. We never grew up together. He is like a younger brother to me, and I am like the elder brother to me, as I have indicated when did we meet.

CHAIRPERSON: Thank you. Thank you.

MAJ-GEN SENONA: Thank you.

CHAIRPERSON: Thanks, Ms Hassim.

ADV BALOYI SC: Can I ...[intervenes].

ADV HASSIM SC: Thanks, Chair.

ADV BALOYI SC: May I? I know you say you will come back to it, but maybe let me just deal with my, in that same, on your phone, I do not know where you will find it, but there is a paragraph that says:

10 “What is worse is that after you told me
 about the discussion between you and
 him regarding Nengi ...”

Do you see that paragraph? In the bundle, it is page 90, if you are looking at the file. Go to page 90.

MAJ-GEN SENONA: Nine zero, Commissioner?

ADV BALOYI SC: Oh there, there. Mr Baloyi is giving you the phone.

MAJ-GEN SENONA: Okay, Commissioner. Which one?

ADV BALOYI SC: -:

20 “What is worse ...”
 It is a paragraph that starts:
 “What is worse is that after you told me
 about the discussion between you and
 him, regarding Nengi, I asked you
 about your relationship with him. I still
 do not know how the two of you met to
 discuss what Nengi care.”

Do you see that?

MAJ-GEN SENONA: Yes, Commissioner.

ADV BALOYI SC: Yes. Did you have a discussion with General Mkhwanazi about Mr Nengi and your discussion with Matlala about Nengi?

MAJ-GEN SENONA: I have never had this discussion.

ADV BALOYI SC: Okay.

MAJ-GEN SENONA: But I strongly believe because I was in and out there, they might have talked about, but as for me, I have never told him about any discussion between me
10 and Mr Matlala regarding Nengi.

ADV BALOYI SC: Yes.

MAJ-GEN SENONA: The only thing that I know I did about Nengi, I only sent that, what you call?

ADV BALOYI SC: That affidavit.

MAJ-GEN SENONA: That thing that was on the media.

ADV BALOYI SC: Okay. So this WhatsApp message has got so far three items that you say you did not discuss with General Mkhwanazi. One, or that you are disputing the
20 correctness of, one, you dispute that you made arrangements with General Mkhwanazi that he meets Mr Matlala. That is one, and you say nothing of sorts happened. And then two, you dispute that you spoke to General Mkhwanazi about Mr Nengi. And then three, you dispute that you told him that you grew up with Mr Matlala.

So there is three factual allegations that you are denying. And I understood your evidence earlier in response to Ms Hassim, I understood you to say you never responded to this WhatsApp message. Is that, am I correct?

MAJ-GEN SENONA: Correct, Commissioner.

ADV BALOYI SC: Yes. Now, he, General Mkhwanazi sends you a WhatsApp that makes what you say are factually incorrect allegations. You have not addressed
10 them. You did not respond to him to say, but I never arranged a meeting. You do not say, I never told you or I never discussed with you about Nengi and I never told you that we grew up together, that I know him for seven years. You do not dispute that to General Mkhwanazi, that is one.

Two, in your statement to us and in your evidence as you sit there you do not, as you discuss this WhatsApp message, it is quite notable, significantly notable, that you do not say that which he says there is actually a lie. I never arranged that meeting with him. That which he says
20 there that I told him, or that I discussed Nengi with him is a lie. And you do not say, I never told him that I grew up with Matlala. I have to say it is a great curiosity that you at no point until now when Ms Hassim and the Chairperson ask you questions, and I do, at no point do you correct what you say are factual inaccuracies or lies. So what is your

explanation for that?

MAJ-GEN SENONA: Commissioner, it is a human error. But I am still under oath, I am saying it is true, I dispute this. Mr Matlala originally is Mamelodi in terms of growing up. Me, I am from Soshanguve. There is no way that we will grow up together.

ADV BALOYI SC: My point is ...[intervenes].

MAJ-GEN SENONA: And then ...[intervenes].

ADV BALOYI SC: You do not, my point, General, is, I am
10 not asking you to repeat what you have said to us, my point is that it is a curiosity at the very least that you will send a message in November 2024 with certain factual allegations about an alleged discussion between you and General Mkhwanazi happened. You do not respond to him. You do not say, but Commissioner, I never had these discussions with you. You do not. You keep quiet. You tell us I did not respond.

You get a further opportunity before us to submit a statement, and you, you drafted the statement. The
20 evidence leaders had nothing to do with it. You prepare the statement. You attach this WhatsApp message for, yes, for a different purpose, but you attach this, and you do not say it contains untruths where it says this and that.

Third opportunity, you are sitting there, you are testifying. You do not say, he sent me this WhatsApp

message, and actually it contains inaccuracies. And your, the explanation that it is human error when you have had three opportunities to correct what you say are inaccuracies is simply not good enough.

MAJ-GEN SENONA: Commissioners, be that as it may, it is a human error. And if I did not realize that I omitted this, it is a human error and then I admit I made a human error by not talking about it in my affidavit and talking about it in my evidence-in-chief. But the question of not responding to
10 him, I decided not to respond to him, but to talk to my attorneys. That one I decided, because you know, there is a culture sometimes in the police. You do not interact with your seniors. It will show sometimes a disrespect and everything.

But I thought when I spoken to my attorneys, he sent these things, the letters will start to exchange to say certain things. But this one of not including it in my affidavit and also committing a human error by not mentioning it in evidence in chief, it is indeed a human
20 error. I came here to tell the truth, nothing as the truth, but not to mislead the Commission, so bear with me as a human error Commissioner.

ADV BALOYI SC: Can I just maybe finally, just in fairness to you, tell you what I think it suggests, and then you can comment. But before I do that, your explanation that you

were not interacting, you cannot, in the police there is a culture, well, this was not a business meeting. You took your friend to an apartment, according to you, in Umhlanga, Pearls, to meet with General Mkhwanazi to help him solve his personal problem, which has nothing to do with policing business. So let us not do that and say this was a business meeting and therefore I could not talk to my superior after he sent me this.

10 You were using your position here and your proximity to Mr Matlala to assist him to get a Commissioner, a Provincial Commissioner, to, in fact, you say you were giving him support. So you were using your position to give support to him. It has nothing to do with your duties as Head of the Hawks. I want to suggest that to you. That is one. And then two, I think, and this is the important part for me, I think you, I want to suggest to you that you did not correct what you say are factual inaccuracies or untruths, in fact, in the statement, because in fact they are true. That is what happened. You arranged a meeting, so that is why
20 you do not correct it on three occasions. You have three opportunities. You do not correct that.

Two, the Nengi discussion, you have three opportunities to say to him, I never discussed, and to say to the Commission, I never discussed with him any discussions about Nengi and Matlala. You have three opportunities, you

do not correct it. And the same with, you never told him that you grew up with Mr Matlala, you have three opportunities to do that.

And my suggestion to you is you do not correct it because it is true, it is what happened. In your discussion in that meeting with General Mkwanaasi, all of that happened. Do you have any comment to it?

MAJ-GEN SENONA: Commissioner, I stick to my comments and the recordings, if they come, they will
10 prevail.

ADV BALOYI SC: Thank you.

MAJ-GEN SENONA: The truth shall prevail.

ADV BALOYI SC: Thank you, General.

ADV KHUMALO SC: There is just one follow-up from me, General. When General Mkhwanazi wrote this WhatsApp to you, he made it clear to you that he will be going to that committee, meaning he will be going to the Ad Hoc committee. So you must have known reading this WhatsApp that General Mkhwanazi intends to go to the Ad Hoc
20 committee to say these things. So my question to you is, did you, in your instructions to the attorneys, instruct them to tell General Mkhwanazi that what is contained in this WhatsApp is not true and if he were to repeat its contents to the Ad Hoc committee, he would be lying to the Ad Hoc committee?

MAJ-GEN SENONA: When I discussed this matter with my attorneys, I told them that I confirmed the issue of the meeting, that I was in attendance. I informed my attorneys that, I mean, for me, I have never arranged this meeting. Number three, in that when he says he is going to play it there, the legal advice was that, no, we will also request the recordings, of which it makes me very happy and comfortable. And then what was the other part of the question, Commissioner?

10 **ADV KHUMALO SC:** The simple point is that you did not say to your attorneys, when you write to General Mkhwanazi, tell him that the content of his WhatsApp is incorrect. What he says in the WhatsApp is simply not true.

MAJ-GEN SENONA: I did not dictate or gave that instruction to them how to write that letter to him, Commissioner. So that is what happened.

ADV KHUMALO SC: I will leave it there for now. Thank you.

20 **ADV HASSIM SC:** The Commissioners have opened up the area of questioning I was going to go to, and I think we should probably just continue on this topic instead of leaving it now.

ADV BALOYI SC: I do apologise, Ms Hassim.

ADV HASSIM SC: No, it is ...[indistinct]. They are ungovernable, these Commissioners. I think that, Major

General, that there is more that you are withholding from the Commission, and I say this because if you look at paragraph 64 of your statement, let me know when you are there. You are there?

MAJ-GEN SENONA: Yes.

ADV HASSIM SC: Okay, you say, actually let me start from the very beginning of that 64. You say you are not privy to all that was discussed as you were moving between the living area and the kitchen, okay. And then you say,
10 this is what you know, one, two, three. These are the topics that you know were discussed in the meeting.

The first is that General Mkhwanazi agreed to assist Mr Matlala to get purchase orders. The second is that General Mkhwanazi spoke on General Nkuoa's alleged corruption and the rumours of her owning properties beyond her affordability. And the third, so this is the sum total of what happened in the meeting, according to you, is that General Mkhwanazi offered to hold or pause investigations against Mr Matlala for the alleged attempted murder in
20 exchange for information on General Sibiya.

In this text message from Mr, from General Mkhwanazi to you, it is clear that other things were discussed in this meeting, for example, the information that was provided by Mr Matlala, and in the text he says he volunteered information about a house address in Sandton

where Sibiya collects money using the state vehicle, and he paid R2 million towards Sibiya's purchase of his plot. He also told me about Sibiya's townhouse. Why is it you do not mention that in your statement?

MAJ-GEN SENONA: Commissioners, first thing first. Mr Matlala requested me to accompany him to the meeting with General Mkhwanazi. And as I have indicated, you read my paragraph, I was up and down there, and I was moving up and down. I said I might have not picked up all the
10 discussions. And further to that, I was busy as well, consuming my liquor there. Some of the things I did not happen to hear them.

ADV HASSIM SC: Because you were in the kitchen.

MAJ-GEN SENONA: I was moving up and down.

ADV HASSIM SC: So can you describe this apartment? Is it, is the kitchen a separate room? Is it a big apartment, a small apartment?

CHAIRPERSON: Open plan?

MAJ-GEN SENONA: It is relatively medium. When you
20 come in, there is a TV and some couches, and then you move backwards, there is a, I cannot remember because I did not work, but there is something at the backwards. And then from here, If you are sitting there at row two, row two, and then here, you come in like this, and then it is a kitchen with the kitchen units and everything.

So I was moving from there, coming here, mixing whatever I was drinking, it is the whiskey of course, and then taking my glass, going back sitting there, consuming while they are talking. When it is done my glass, I will go back and fill up because I was offered. I see here I also omitted to say it in my statement that I was offered whiskey, but I was offered whiskey.

Some of the things I will not recall. It is not that it is by intention. I am not withholding any information for the
10 Commission. If I wanted to withhold information from the Commission, even these messages you would not have got. So I am withholding nothing. I am here to come and assist the Commission to deliver its mandate.

ADV HASSIM SC: So the kitchen, I am just trying to understand the layout, because it sounds like an open plan layout. The kitchen is not a separate closed room. You can see the kitchen from the living room, is that correct?

MAJ-GEN SENONA: You can see it, but you cannot see when you go deeper. You will not see, but you can see
20 there is the kitchen.

ADV HASSIM SC: Is it open plan?

MAJ-GEN SENONA: Some sort of, but not 100%. Open plan, the way I understand it, from my perspective, Commissioners, is that from here where I am sitting, let us say this space, it is your lounge, né. And then maybe

three, two meters, and then just like this, then it is the kitchen. That for me is an open plan. But when you go, when you are sitting here, you have to turn a little bit. Another person might call it an open plan. Another person like me, I will say it is not a fully open plan. The way we see it, the way we describe it, will never be the same. But that is how I see it.

ADV HASSIM SC: And you say if you go into the kitchen, you cannot hear what is happening in the living room.

10 **MAJ-GEN SENONA:** The TV, I think there was a TV that was on and they were talking, they were not shouting. What I have heard, I have assisted the Commission with what I heard.

ADV HASSIM SC: No, sure. Let us ...[intervenes].

MAJ-GEN SENONA: So some of the things that I did not hear, I am not going to speculate, Commissioners, and say, I think I heard, I think this and this and this, because the issue on this meeting, on this WhatsApp, if the recording was here, it would have also reminded me of some of the
20 things.

ADV HASSIM SC: So you say that you went into the kitchen. It is somewhat open, but not completely.

MAJ-GEN SENONA: Correct.

ADV HASSIM SC: To the, what you call the living room. And what were you going to the kitchen to do? You say to

pour yourself a whiskey.

MAJ-GEN SENONA: Correct, Commissioner.

ADV HASSIM SC: And how long did it take you to pour a whiskey?

MAJ-GEN SENONA: I did not make a timing. I will stand up, go to the kitchen, open the fridge, look for ice, put the ice in the glass, take the whiskey, put it there, look for a mix, then put the mix, taste if the glass is to that level, that suits me, and then I go back.

10 **ADV HASSIM SC**: How many times did you do this?

MAJ-GEN SENONA: I do not have any recollection how many times, Commissioners.

ADV HASSIM SC: So there is a conversation going on about General Sibiyi that seems quite detailed here. It is about a house, there is an address in Sandton collecting money using a state vehicle, there is the R2 million issue, there is a townhouse issue. Throughout the entire discussion of that, you were absent. Is that what you are saying to the Commission?

20 **MAJ-GEN SENONA**: I do not have a recollection. I am not saying I was absent. I was in that house, but I do not have recollection of that, Commissioners.

ADV HASSIM SC: I have a view that I would like you to comment on, and that is that you deliberately withheld this information about Sibiyi, and that is partly backed up for

me by your reluctance today to mention General Sibiya's name in relation to this text message that General Mkhwanazi sent you. You did not want to mention this part of the text that mentions General Sibiya. What is your response to that?

MAJ-GEN SENONA: What is the actual question? I missed it because it is too long.

ADV HASSIM SC: That you are, that you withheld the information, that you were aware that this was mentioned,
10 this, all these things about General Sibiya ...[intervenes].

MAJ-GEN SENONA: Commissioner ...[intervenes].

ADV HASSIM SC: But you wanted to withhold it from the Commission, and that is also why you did not want to mention General Sibiya's name today in the Commission.

MAJ-GEN SENONA: Commissioners, you shall have recorded or observed when I was talking about the Port Shepstone theft of the cocaine from Port Shepstone. It was very thorough. The reason is that when I visited the crime scene, I made notes, I compiled information notes to head
20 office and there were statements and everything there. Here, I did not have, that did not happen in this meeting. So I think it is a common cause that as a human being, there are things that you will forget, there are things that you will not hear, but on a serious note, I am not withholding any information.

And the issue of General Sibiya, my legal team was talking to the Commission in relation to the issue of security. But now I was advised I must do it. I did it at that advice because fourth, I was advised to say that. Now, these messages were sent to me and I sent them to my attorneys who requested the recordings from the General and the General did not provide us with the recordings. I will never withheld information. If I recalled, I would have deposited it here or talked about it in this Commission.

10 **ADV HASSIM SC:** Okay, your short answer is you did not remember, that is why you did not. That is your response.

MAJ-GEN SENONA: Correct.

ADV HASSIM SC: And the other thing that General Mkhwanazi mentions in this text is a conversation regarding one Mr Nengi, but you do not include that in your paragraph 64 either. Why is that?

MAJ-GEN SENONA: I have already responded when the Commissioner was asking me that question.

ADV HASSIM SC: I do not believe that question was asked
20 why you did not refer to Nengi in your statement when it was mentioned here by General Mkhwanazi.

MAJ-GEN SENONA: Commissioner said this message it is, you never disputed, you are disputing them, but you never dispute in, you never said it in your affidavit. You were here, you never said it. That is one of the first questions

that the Commissioner asked me and I responded.

ADV HASSIM SC: What was your response, because I think we are at cross purposes on this.

MAJ-GEN SENONA: The issue of discussion between Mr Matlala and myself regarding Nengi, that is, this is the message that the Commissioner was telling me about. Then I said no.

ADV HASSIM SC: I am asking you why you did not mention the discussion of Nengi that took place at the
10 meeting of 15 April.

MAJ-GEN SENONA: My answer ...[intervenes].

ADV HASSIM SC: Let me just say ...[intervenes].

MAJ-GEN SENONA: Oh, okay.

ADV HASSIM SC: Because the text says, you told me about your discussion between you and Matlala. I am not asking you about that. I am asking you about a discussion about Mr Nengi at the meeting of 15 April, because he is talking about this in the context of the meeting of 15 April. He mentions Nengi. You do not mention that as a topic that
20 was discussed. Why?

MAJ-GEN SENONA: I think I have already indicated some of these things I forgot. I did not hear them. And then I believe that if I cannot recollect any of some of the facts, I cannot be pushed to say, then now I remember.

ADV HASSIM SC: Okay. So you do not remember that

either. You might have been in the kitchen.

MAJ-GEN SENONA: Yes, correct.

ADV HASSIM SC: Okay, and you do, but so you do not deny that that conversation took place, because you do not remember.

MAJ-GEN SENONA: What are you saying, Advocate?

ADV HASSIM SC: You cannot deny that there was a conversation about Mr Nengi in this meeting on 15 April, right?

10 **MAJ-GEN SENONA**: I cannot, but apparently, as I am saying, I was moving up and down. They must have discussed it, not me.

ADV HASSIM SC: Okay.

MAJ-GEN SENONA: The General and Mr Matlala might have discussed it, but when they talk about that, I did not hear it. But I do not deny that it must have been a discussion there between the two. Because when you read also, okay, let me leave that.

ADV HASSIM SC: Okay. So you have explained the
20 kitchen and all of that. Now, why is it that Mr Matlala wanted you to accompany him in this meeting?

MAJ-GEN SENONA: He has already indicated in one of the things you gave us here, the transcripts, that he wanted me to accompany him because he believed that when he met with the General, he wanted to have that comfort of

talking whatever he wanted to talk there.

ADV HASSIM SC: Yes, so I am not asking you what Mr Matlala said to the Ad Hoc committee. I am asking what was your conversation with Mr Matlala, what did he say to you?

MAJ-GEN SENONA: It is what he said in the Ad Hoc, and you gave us the transcripts. They are there.

ADV HASSIM SC: Yes, I understand that. General, please answer the question that I am asking you, which is not
10 about the Ad Hoc committee. I am asking about your interaction with Mr Matlala. He asked you to come to a meeting, to accompany him to a meeting on 15 April.

MAJ-GEN SENONA: Yes.

ADV HASSIM SC: And you say, what? What did he, what did he do? When did he call you? What did he say? That is what I am asking you.

MAJ-GEN SENONA: I think we were talking on the 14th, and then he said, I want you to accompany me to a meeting that was arranged by General Cele between me and General
20 Mkhwanazi, and then he indicated he does not know General Mkhwanazi, but he will feel comfortable for me to come there. And again, the General also, because I am working with him, maybe he might also feel comfortable for me if I am there and then they can have discussions. I did not refuse because I did not see any wrong thing about that.

ADV HASSIM SC: You knew that this meeting was to facilitate assistance for Mr Matlala with his contractual problems with the SAPS, is that not so?

MAJ-GEN SENONA: I knew that it was regarding the purchase orders.

ADV HASSIM SC: Right.

MAJ-GEN SENONA: Because I asked, what is the meeting all about? It was regarding the purchase orders.

ADV HASSIM SC: And you did not see any problem with
10 that?

MAJ-GEN SENONA: Correct.

ADV HASSIM SC: You did not see any problem with assisting a member, a service provider to the SAPS was having difficulties with their contract. to facilitate or smooth the way. You did not, you had no problem with that as a very senior law enforcement officer responsible for organized crime, including, as you told us, one of the national priority crimes is Government fraud.

MAJ-GEN SENONA: I did not see it as a problem
20 accompanying a brother, a younger brother, to a meeting that I was not a full participant. I was not, they were talking. The first time we were talking general things, and then from there they started to interact in their things, you know, greeting each other, how are you, where are you from, those general things. And then from there they were,

it came, they came to discuss these things. I happened to hear what I have listed here. The ones that I have not listed, I have not heard about that discussions, because I do not see any problem in me taking him there. Because also, I was not privy to any information in that Mr Matlala is the subject of investigation of whatever cases he has been arrested and charged for.

ADV HASSIM SC: Well, we will come back to that because you did know by then, because as you told the Commission
10 earlier ...[intervenes].

MAJ-GEN SENONA: On the ...[intervenes].

ADV HASSIM SC: At the very least on the 5th of March, you had major concerns, such serious concerns that you began to exercise caution, you said, in respect of Mr Matlala. Yet you accompany him to this meeting to help smooth the way with his contractual problems in the SAPS.

MAJ-GEN SENONA: The concerns was regarding the exchange of the directorship of the company. Ja, not that there is an investigation. It is an article that was in the
20 newspaper and then over and above that, yes, I agree, I testified, I had that concerns that culminated in me trying to start to reverse from our relationship.

And further to that, I also heard in that meeting that there was this case, attempted murder case that is being investigated against him while the General was telling him.

That is, those are the ones that, this is the investigation I heard about, but the one for changing the directorship, I do not know whether there was an investigation or what, it concerned me.

ADV HASSIM SC: Well, I think it will probably help to go to that article because there was a lot in that article and it was beyond even these contractual issues and, but let me finish this and we will come back to that. You knew, you still had concerns. We know that you had concerns. You
10 said you were exercising caution.

You go to a meeting, you know that this is a discussion, a plan, this is what the meeting is for. And then you say that the meeting, what took place in the meeting was an exchange between General Mkhwanazi and a service provider on how to fix the problem. You give me this and I will get you some more purchase orders. Did you, that is what you say in your statement, right?

MAJ-GEN SENONA: Can I be assisted that you give me this, I will give you purchase orders, can I be assisted,
20 which paragraph is that, Commissioners?

ADV HASSIM SC: You say that Mkhwanazi agreed to assist Mr Matlala, right, to get the purchase orders. You say that he spoke about General Nkuoa's alleged corruption. So he is sharing information now about, as you call it, the end user, right. And then you say that he offered

to put on hold investigations that were currently underway against Mr Matlala, right. You are sitting in this meeting, at least for the part of it that you are sober and not in the kitchen, you know that this is the discussion that is happening. Did it not strike you as something that is of serious concern and should not be taking place?

MAJ-GEN SENONA: You know, Commissioners, the first question that you indicated that help me about this and this and this, I will ensure you get orders. I have never talked
10 about that. I must indicate, I did not talk about that here, even in my statement. But these others, yes, I did highlight them in my statement.

Your question is the issue of concerns. I have never had any concerns upon these discussions. You know, when the General was talking to him, my understanding or my take on that time was that the General was talking maybe under general and then the actual actions that he was supposed to take, I do not know. But for me, it did not matter.

20 **ADV BALOYI SC**: Sorry, General, when, and this is in your statement, when General Mkhwanazi says, according to you, when he offers to pause investigations, to pause investigations against Mr Matlala for the alleged attempted murder of Thebogo Thobejane in exchange for information on Lieutenant General Sibiya, you say that does not

concern you? This part we know you heard, that is why it is in your statement.

MAJ-GEN SENONA: Yes, so ...[intervenes].

ADV BALOYI SC: And you say as head of DPCI, KZN, that is not anything that concerns you?

MAJ-GEN SENONA: Commissioners, at some stages when we deal with this type of issues, I believed later that General Mkhwanazi might have information that he knows and then he wanted further information. When you, I
10 believe he might have come there to do certain interrogation and talk certain things because I was not aware, me, about this case. So when you do the interview or interrogation, you need information. You say other things that might not necessarily mean in order for you to extract information. I believe that because as an investigator, we do have other tactics that we utilize to extract information from people.

ADV BALOYI SC: No, General, this is not an interrogation. You are there to assist Mr Matlala to get his contract
20 honoured by SAPS. That is why you are there. You go there, you know why he is going there, it is to get assistance to get his purchase orders put through so he can make money. You know that. So you go there. It is not an official meeting. You are not there in an official capacity because if you are, then there is a further serious problem

about that meeting.

You are not there in your official capacity. You are there as Mr Matlala's friend / brother. That is why you are there. You listen in, in an informal discussion to a Commissioner who says, I will pause, I will use my influence to pause investigation on a serious matter of an alleged murder, attempted murder, if you give me information about General Sibiya. And you say that is not a matter that causes you concern in that meeting, in that
10 informal meeting, which is about the contract.

MAJ-GEN SENONA: My presence there was to accompany Mr Matlala, that is correct, but not to facilitate him to be, to receive the purchase orders. That was, the meeting was facilitated by General Cele. So eventually, this was discussed. As I am saying, sometimes this is what people can tell you that this is what will happen, whereas they do not mean it.

ADV BALOYI SC: So you thought General Mkhwanazi does not mean it. Is that what you thought there and then?

20 **MAJ-GEN SENONA**: Because he wanted information about ...[intervenes].

ADV BALOYI SC: So you thought, so you thought General Mkhwanazi does not mean it with this offer, is my question.

MAJ-GEN SENONA: I thought so at that stage, yes.

ADV BALOYI SC: Then why do you mention it in this

statement, if you thought he just said it without meaning it.

MAJ-GEN SENONA: But it is what, this is what was, I am telling the Commissioners what happened in that meeting. It is not that I am saying it even if I thought he never mean it, but this is what happened there, Commissioner ...[intervenes].

ADV BALOYI SC: Okay.

MAJ-GEN SENONA: So I would not want to say, even if I have a negative thought of something, then I decide to
10 leave it. I do not know which information, Commissioners, is going to assist this Commission, but I gave everything that I know and that I can really recollect to assist the Commission.

ADV BALOYI SC: Okay, so just so that I am clear about your answer, you are saying to us now that as you sat in that apartment, and General Mkhwanazi said to Mr Matlala, I will hold the investigation if you give me information. As you sat in that apartment, you did not think that General Mkhwanazi meant it. Is that what you are saying to us?

20 **MAJ-GEN SENONA**: Correct, Commissioners, because eventually, on the day when he was arrested, he was charged for the very same case, and then he was processed for the very same case. This is the case where he was arrested.

ADV BALOYI SC: All right, so – okay, so the part that is

missing in your statement on this paragraph 64.3, the part, the unwritten part or the missing part is, I did not believe that General Mkhwanazi meant it. Is that - If I added that, that would be, in the light of what you are saying.

MAJ-GEN SENONA: Correct, Commissioner.

ADV BALOYI SC: All right, thank you. And by the way, this meeting, how long was it?

MAJ-GEN SENONA: I think almost an hour or so.

ADV HASSIM SC: Sorry, did you say about an hour?

10 **MAJ-GEN SENONA**: An hour or so.

ADV HASSIM SC: And you say that General Mkhwanazi agreed to assist Mr Matlala to get purchase orders from General Nkhuoa. That did not trouble you too much?

MAJ-GEN SENONA: No, if the purchase orders are not coming, if somebody says I will assist, the assistance is from where I am sitting, it can be there is this contract, there is no purchase orders, is there a problem or whatever, not necessarily to give somebody an instruction, but that they go there to give this person this, because in this
20 meeting, there was no even promises of if you do this, I will pay you or I will give this. There was nothing of that nature. But on this one, I did not have a problem.

ADV HASSIM SC: You did not have a problem with assistance ...[intervenes].

MAJ-GEN SENONA: Yes.

ADV HASSIM SC: To the service provider, your friend, to getting purchase orders from General Nkhua. Do you know General Nkhua?

MAJ-GEN SENONA: I know she is now the Acting Deputy National Commissioner: Support Services.

ADV HASSIM SC: But you did not know at the time who she was.

MAJ-GEN SENONA: Yes, I knew at the time.

ADV HASSIM SC: You knew?

10 **MAJ-GEN SENONA:** Yes, correct.

ADV HASSIM SC: And did you have any reason to think that maybe she had a concern that was a legitimate concern regarding the contract?

MAJ-GEN SENONA: [Indistinct]...

ADV HASSIM SC: Did you have any reason to think that she had a legitimate concern with the contract and that is why she was not placing more purchase orders?

MAJ-GEN SENONA: I will not know. I do not know.

20 **ADV HASSIM SC:** You had never heard of her and the contract ...[intervenes].

MAJ-GEN SENONA: This thing of - I will not know, Commissioners.

ADV HASSIM SC: This is in April 2025. You had not heard of any concern raised by General Nkhua about the contract and the issue of purchase orders?

MAJ-GEN SENONA: I will have to check on these messages if there was something like that, but I know there was a message. a screenshot of some sort that Mr Matlala sent to me regarding payments.

ADV HASSIM SC: Okay, so ...[intervenes].

MAJ-GEN SENONA: I remember that one ...[intervenes].

ADV HASSIM SC: Right.

MAJ-GEN SENONA: On there, because the WhatsApp messages assisted me to recall, and I was reading through
10 that. And then that thing, I know that again, he had a problem with the payments as well as the orders. That is what he told me, Mr Matlala. I was aware of that. But the issue of the problem with the actual contract, that one, I only saw when I see that media clip that raised concern on me regarding him when he changed the directorship.

ADV HASSIM SC: That is the only time you became aware of any concern ...[intervenes].

MAJ-GEN SENONA: As far as I can ...[intervenes].

ADV HASSIM SC: So, okay, so you are saying – yes?

20 **MAJ-GEN SENONA:** As far as I can recollect, but I will have to check the WhatsApp group.

ADV HASSIM SC: Ja, I mean, I think we, and it is quite important. I also want to know why do you think in your position as a Provincial Head of the Hawks, responsible for preventing and combating priority crimes, you did not

advise Mr Matlala differently to say, if you have a problem, go through proper channels.

MAJ-GEN SENONA: Look, the meeting was never arranged by me, it was arranged by General Cele. And then I believe if you expected of me to give him, to tell him to say go through proper channels, even the General who was there, as the senior to me, would have done that, but he did not do that. So that is why I did not see a problem in that. Maybe he was going to come up with that or not, I would not
10 know and I do not know.

ADV HASSIM SC: So because your colleague, the Provincial Commissioner, did not say anything, you thought, therefore you do not need to either. Is that what you are saying?

MAJ-GEN SENONA: Ja, remember, the assistance was directed to General Mkhwanazi. And then he is not, he must not be exonerated that he did not do this. If he deemed it fit, he should have said, these are the procedures, follow them.

20 **ADV HASSIM SC**: General Mkhwanazi will have to give an explanation for this. I am asking you because this was your meeting that you were present at, you participated. Before you went into this meeting, you said to us, before you went into the meeting, you knew what it was about.

MAJ-GEN SENONA: Let me correct you. It is not my

meeting. I was invited. So what I am telling you, I am telling you the truth, and I am telling you what was in my mind by then, and I do not want to come here and change it. I cannot chip and change things as they are happening, Commissioner.

ADV KHUMALO SC: General, you accepted the invitation, knowing what the purpose of the meeting is.

MAJ-GEN SENONA: Correct, Commissioner, but it was not my meeting.

10 **ADV KHUMALO SC:** No, no, I understand that. You were invited. You did not organise the meeting. But in accepting the invitation, you knew what the purpose of the meeting was. You knew where you were going and for what purpose you were going there.

MAJ-GEN SENONA: I knew it was regarding the purchase orders.

ADV KHUMALO SC: Yes. So you knew that your friend, who is a business person doing business with SAPS, wanted to go see a SAPS Commissioner to ask for favours
20 relating to the same contract.

MAJ-GEN SENONA: I hear what you are saying, Commissioner. My ...[intervenes].

ADV KHUMALO SC: No, it is a yes or no. You knew or you did not know.

MAJ-GEN SENONA: I knew that they were going to talk

about the orders, yes.

ADV KHUMALO SC: He was going to ask for favours relating to the same contract.

MAJ-GEN SENONA: He was going to ask for the issuing of the purchase orders.

ADV KHUMALO SC: But General Mkhwanazi cannot issue purchase orders. They are issued in Pretoria.

MAJ-GEN SENONA: I agree with you, but why did they refer Mr Matlala to General Mkhwanazi? I do not know,
10 Commissioner.

ADV HASSIM SC: Thanks. No, I think that I would like to go to the WhatsApp messages directly and a video clip.

ADV BALOYI SC: It is on the same, the same WhatsApp?

ADV HASSIM SC: On the same, it is the WhatsApp messages between General Senona and Cat Matlala on this issue.

ADV BALOYI SC: Okay.

ADV HASSIM SC: Chair, may I be given a short, and I know that we are running close to time, but I would like to
20 at least close off on this before we break.

CHAIRPERSON: All right. All right, Ms Hassim, yes.

ADV HASSIM SC: Thank you kindly. If I could please ask that we go to 6 February, and that would be file one of three of the exhibit bundles.

CHAIRPERSON: And that is marked what, Ms Hassim?

ADV HASSIM SC: It is marked file one of three.

CHAIRPERSON: No, I have the file.

ADV HASSIM SC: The page 15.

CHAIRPERSON: Five zero? One five?

ADV HASSIM SC: One five.

CHAIRPERSON: One five. Thank you.

ADV HASSIM SC: And you will see, General, if you look down on that page towards the bottom on 6 February, Mr Matlala sends you a video attachment.

10 **MAJ-GEN SENONA:** Yes, Commissioner.

ADV HASSIM SC: Okay. So if we could just play that video attachment, please. There should be a link. How long will it take? Chair, I wonder if we cannot adjourn for a few minutes.

CHAIRPERSON: How long is the clip and how long are you going to be engaging with it?

ADV HASSIM SC: The clip is about, it will probably be about 15 seconds or so, the clip itself, or 30 seconds at most.

20 **CHAIRPERSON:** And your engagement?

ADV HASSIM SC: Five minutes.

CHAIRPERSON: We will adjourn.

ADV HASSIM SC: Thank you, Chair.

INQUIRY ADJOURNS

INQUIRY RESUMES

CHAIRPERSON: Yes, Ms Hassim?

ADV HASSIM SC: Thank you, Chair. So this is a video clip that Mr Matlala sent to you, Major General, on the 6th of February 2025 and if we could just play that, please.

VIDEO CLIP PLAYED BACK

10 “Are ready to take the kids to the college on the 4th. So by Monday, if we have not received anything, we close. We rather send members that are short and that process of the non-performance by the service provider, that process are already directed that we must start. So...”

ADV HASSIM SC: Were you able to hear that, Chair?

CHAIRPERSON: Not quite.

ADV HASSIM SC: Can you play it? Slow down the speed.

CHAIRPERSON: Also, the volume not as high also, if that is possible.

VIDEO CLIP PLAYED BACK

20 “Are ready to take the kids to the college on the 4th. So by Monday, if we have not received anything, we close. We rather send members that are short and that process of the non-performance by the service provider,

that process are already directed that
we must start. So...”

ADV HASSIM SC: Okay, that video clip you have seen before, is that not so?

MAJ-GEN SENONA: I see he did send it to me.

ADV HASSIM SC: Yes.

ADV BALOYI SC: Perhaps, sorry, Ms Hassim, it might be helpful for purpose of the record to ...[intervenes].

ADV HASSIM SC: To transcribe.

10 **ADV BALOYI SC:** To try and say it out, ja, to say it out what is in there?

ADV HASSIM SC: The last sentence of the person speaking was, I have directed that that process of non-performance of the service provider must start.

ADV BALOYI SC: Let us confirm with General Senona that that is what he also ...[intervenes].

ADV HASSIM SC: Did you hear that?

ADV BALOYI SC: Yes, or heard.

20 **MAJ-GEN SENONA:** Me hearing this it is difficult Commissioners, but if the evidence leader say this is what it was said, I am comfortable with that.

ADV HASSIM SC: Okay. So Mr Matlala sends you this video clip. You knew that was General Nkhua. What did you make of that clip when you received it?

MAJ-GEN SENONA: First thing first, I do not know why Mr

Matlala sent it to me. You will realize after he sent it to me, there is no response, but my make of it, I did not know which service providers are talking about here, because, if I hear some of the things there I think when you say the process of non-performing of service providers né, the last one, Commissioner. So, this, for me, there is no clarity here which service provider they are talking about.

ADV HASSIM SC: Okay.

MAJ-GEN SENONA: But he did send it to me, but I did not
10 know what service providers, which one for which work that must be done. But I heard if we run people that are short is still fine, and that. I heard people if they are short and the non-performance, as you advised me, at the last lines of service providers, non-performance of service providers. I cannot make an informed explanation of what is it that you make about this.

ADV HASSIM SC: So he sent that to you, but you did not have a discussion with him about it?

MAJ-GEN SENONA: No, this ...[indistinct] [intervenes].

20 **ADV HASSIM SC:** No. He shares his problems, you told us in your statement, he shares his struggles and his problems with you.

MAJ-GEN SENONA: Absolutely true.

ADV HASSIM SC: And he sent you this, but you had no conversation about it.

MAJ-GEN SENONA: These problems when he started to tell me, I want to check on these WhatsApp messages regarding this. I strongly believe it is far beyond this clip when he told me about this. But the only thing I know is the payment before this clip, the delay of payment that he told me about Commissioners. But regarding this, he sent me this clip. I do not know why. I could not make up anything around this because even if it can be replayed for me to just get a sense of this, what you call, what was the person
10 talking there actually saying? And then maybe, if they would have talked about the very same, the service provider, they have, maybe they have disclosed the identity of the service provider. It will be, it will help or it will be, make things better for me, but at this stage I did not make it up anything about it, and we never talked and discussed this thing.

ADV HASSIM SC: You mean at that stage in, at 6 February you did not make anything ...[intervenes].

MAJ-GEN SENONA: We never discussed the issue of the
20 non-performance of his contract and everything.

ADV HASSIM SC: And you – okay, I hear that, but that is not my question. My question is, on 6 February, you did not make anything of this because you did not understand what it was about, the video clip.

MAJ-GEN SENONA: Ja, absolutely true. I did not make

anything of it.

ADV HASSIM SC: You just, you could not, you did not ...[intervenes].

MAJ-GEN SENONA: I just ...[intervenes].

ADV HASSIM SC: You listened to it ...[intervenes].

MAJ-GEN SENONA: [Indistinct]... [constant cross-talking]

It is something that went like a blink and then I just ignored it.

ADV HASSIM SC: You just ignored it?

10 **MAJ-GEN SENONA:** Ja, I just listened to it and then I left it because I did not make it anything of significant about this clip.

ADV HASSIM SC: You did not think there was anything of significance that a service provider had access to a recording, an internal meeting discussion on a contract within the SAPS? You did not think that was significant?

MAJ-GEN SENONA: Yes, because remember, I do not know who was attending this meeting, who was there, whether maybe also Mr Matlala was there or his
20 representative. I will not know. Me, I will not know. If I knew, maybe I would have a different thought, but I do not know.

ADV HASSIM SC: And you did not think to ask Mr Matlala, how did you come to be in possession of an internal discussion with the internal, the screenshot you saw was of

a computer with SAPS contractual information on it, finance information, correct?

MAJ-GEN SENONA: You want me to respond?

ADV HASSIM SC: Yes.

MAJ-GEN SENONA: I did not ask him and I did not ...[intervenes].

ADV HASSIM SC: No, no. No, no, hold on, hold on. Let me start first. You saw that the picture on the video was of a computer screen depicting internal information, SAPS
10 information? You saw that, is that not so?

MAJ-GEN SENONA: I saw it.

ADV HASSIM SC: Right. And when you saw that, you did not ask him how did he come to be in possession of that internal information, that recording.

MAJ-GEN SENONA: I did not, because I do not know who were the attendees of this meeting. Maybe one of his people was in attendance of this meeting or not. I will not know. I do not want to come and mushroom answers and say, no, I did not know I asked him. I have never even
20 discussed this thing with him thereafter.

ADV HASSIM SC: So, and it did not concern you that this information was being shared with the service provider? You were not concerned?

MAJ-GEN SENONA: If it was shared with him or he was a participant there, he got it from there. I did not ask and

start to tick and check where did you get it. As I have indicated, it is also evident in this WhatsApp things that I have never interacted with him after he sent me this thing.

ADV HASSIM SC: Well, that is actually not at all evident from the WhatsApp's, and we will continue with that as we continue our questioning, because you continue to meet Mr Matlala and you do not tell us what you discussed at those meetings and whether this is something that you discussed in the meeting.

10 **MAJ-GEN SENONA:** We never discussed this in the meeting, Commissioners. Our meetings was of a social nature. When I talk to my brother, we talk general things, life things. We interact on general things and things that might, are on the public domain and so forth. You know, we do not, but we have never discussed this thing. This thing, I happened to know when he asked me to know the details when he asked me to accompany him to the meeting for the orders when we were talking on the 14th of April. So that is that. I do not have any answer for the Commissioners, but
20 the answers that I have gave is the answers that I have for you. But other than that, I do not have another one.

ADV BALOYI SC: General, it is very difficult to accept that you would receive a video clip like that, which has SAPS information and branding, that you would not ask Mr Matlala, what is this about, why are you sending me this

video clip and what is the conversation about? It is very difficult to accept that.

MAJ-GEN SENONA: I under ...[intervenes].

ADV BALOYI SC: Ja, it is just difficult and maybe you need to rethink your answers because it does not look good. It looks, this I did not ask when he sent you what you say is a random clip, which we know from later interaction that in fact you become involved in his meeting about the same subject matter later. You attend a meeting with General
10 Mkhwanazi.

So we know from your evidence, or the evidence that is before us now, that you do become somewhat involved with your explanation of how you become involved. And then there is a clip that is sent to you which deals with that subject matter and you say to us, well, I did not know what it was about, but importantly, I did not ask him, why are you sending me this random clip? I am struggling with accepting the truthfulness of your answer.

MAJ-GEN SENONA: I hear what the Commissioner is
20 saying, but I still say I did not. I do not want to rethink my answers or whatever, but I want to give the Commissioners what I know and what I can stand for, because this one we did not. The issue of the meeting is after, this is 6 February, the meeting is around April. I have never even picked it up that at that time he sent me this thing and this

thing is happening.

I have never picked it up that, and do the, and connected the dots by then, but now that the Advocate here is saying to me, this is not related to that one, I see that this thing, the way it is, it talks about service providers who are unable to deliver, I think, something like that. But from the onset, I am saying I just read it and then I did not make it an issue and so forth. Even though the Commissioner is struggling to accept my explanation, but that is the
10 explanation I can give for this.

ADV BALOYI SC: Ja. Well, because here is how, what I see, General. Mr Matlala would have to really be a madman to send you a clip that has no context for you. You have absolutely no idea. You have never discussed this with him and then he sends you this clip without explanation, there is further no discussion with you, there is no request for clarification. He just sends it and he leaves it to you to make of it what you will. Now, I start off by saying he would really have to be a madman and I say that to say it is
20 improbable that you had no idea what this clip is about. You had a context to it, that is why he sent it to you. It is simply not correct what you are representing to us, that you knew nothing about it and you let it be.

MAJ-GEN SENONA: Commissioner, I agree, he sent it to me. I concede that he did send this thing to me. Over and

above that, I still stand by my explanation that I did not take, made up anything about this video. I do not have any better answer, but this is the best I am giving to the Commissioner.

ADV BALOYI SC: Thank you, General.

ADV HASSIM SC: I put it to you, Major General, that it is actually much worse than that. That is bad enough, but it is even worse because Mr Matlala sends you this video clip comfortably, knowing that he need not fear any
10 consequence of sharing this kind of information with you, because you would not report it to anyone, even though he should not be in possession of it. He felt safe that you would not question how he came to be in possession of that video clip. What do you say to that?

MAJ-GEN SENONA: I do not know how he felt, but he just sent it to me, and I did not make it up what exactly this thing is, why did he send it to me, and so forth. And I did not even ask him, as I indicated earlier. But he himself, if you are saying he felt comfortable to send it to me, that one
20 I do not know. But he just sent it to me.

ADV HASSIM SC: Well, he was right to feel comfortable because indeed you did nothing with it. A video clip in which there is an internal screen, Medicare 24 payment, purchase contract information, and it is obviously a recording of a meeting, an internal meeting and he knew

that you would not raise that. And did you ask anyone within SAPS or say, to report to say there is a leak, there is someone in your finance department or in supply chain management, there is a leak. Because you quoted to me the Constitution and your duties under the Constitution, would that not be in line with your duties to contact supply chain management or the finance department, whoever the relevant department, say you have got a leak?

MAJ-GEN SENONA: I did not do that.

10 **CHAIRPERSON:** That is not the question. The question, that is not the question, General. The question is whether, based on what you yourself said about SAPS duties and obligations under the Constitution, you were not obliged to, at the very least, contact people within the finance department of SAPS or the SCM, supply chain management section of SAPS and ask, are you aware that there is a leak, who is guilty of having leaked this information? That is the question.

MAJ-GEN SENONA: I did not do that, Commissioner.

20 **CHAIRPERSON:** No, the question is not, it is not whether you did it or not. The question is, is this not your obligation? Were you not obliged to do it? That is the question.

MAJ-GEN SENONA: As the Commissioners are putting it to me now, I might say maybe it is an hindsight on myself.

CHAIRPERSON: Was it an obligation, General? The very obligation that you referred us to this morning, and you were even quoting a section from the Constitution in terms of what SAPS' obligations are in terms of that section ...[intervenes].

MAJ-GEN SENONA: I hear ...[intervenes].

CHAIRPERSON: Did you not have that obligation?

MAJ-GEN SENONA: At that moment, Commissioner, I know it is an obligation on me. At that moment, it never
10 crossed my mind to deal with it in that fashion. And I accept the mistake I did because it never crossed my mind.

CHAIRPERSON: Did you not at the very least consider this to be a serious matter? Let us leave aside that it did not occur to you to report or approach anybody. This is about taking action with regard to the question of non-performance in respect of a contract and that is something which concerned internal SAPS discussions.

MAJ-GEN SENONA: As I am indicating, Commissioner, it never crossed my mind at that stage. I know I am
20 obligated, but it never, and I did not do it, Commissioner.

CHAIRPERSON: All right. Now, in retrospect, do you think that it was a serious matter?

MAJ-GEN SENONA: Now?

CHAIRPERSON: Yes.

MAJ-GEN SENONA: Now that I am informed by the

Commissioner.

CHAIRPERSON: No, no, no, leave aside what you are being informed. Do you not think that this is a serious matter, as you sit there now? And let me again take you back to what both Commissioner Baloyi and Advocate Hassim took you through. This is internal information about discussions within SAPS. There is even a SAPS logo. And it is about action that should be taken in respect of non-performance of a contract. As you sit there, my question is,
10 do you not consider that this video clip concerned a serious issue as you sit there now?

MAJ-GEN SENONA: As I sit now, I do consider, Commissioner.

CHAIRPERSON: And you only realize that now?

MAJ-GEN SENONA: Yes, Commissioner.

ADV HASSIM SC: Commissioner ...[intervenes].

CHAIRPERSON: And if I suggest to you that that cannot be, what do you say?

MAJ-GEN SENONA: It is now, Commissioner.

20 **CHAIRPERSON**: Yes, Ms Hassim?

MS MAFISA: Chair.

CHAIRPERSON: Yes, yes. Yes, Ms Mafisa?

MS MAFISA: Thank you, Chairperson. I just did not want to interrupt the leading of evidence or your questioning, Chairperson. However, I would like to state that this

particular video has not been given to the legal team, and it also has not been given to Major General Senona. So the line of questioning, I do think it is rather unfair to Major General Senona. We are unsure whether there was indeed an SAPS branding on the video. We are not quite sure who the speaker is in the video either, and I do think that Major General Senona should have been given an opportunity to consult with his legal team regarding this video, as we have done and as has been provided to us, the annexures SEN1
10 to SEN7. So I do think that this video should have been provided to us and if there is other video clips that will be used tomorrow, I simply request that we receive these video clips so that we can consult with the Major General.

CHAIRPERSON: Yes.

ADV HASSIM SC: Chair, sorry, but that is an untenable submission.

CHAIRPERSON: Oh, Ms Mafisa, just to clarify, we as Commissioners are not aware of what was shared or what was not shared. And with regard to the branding, I relied
20 purely on what was said in the, as part of the questioning. And I do not, and in fact, I think I did actually preface one of my questions on what was put to General Senona by Ms Hassim. And I just whispered now to my colleague whether she too referred to that and she said she did. But maybe, I do not know, she too relied on what Advocate Hassim had

said. But I will invite Advocate Hassim to respond.

ADV HASSIM SC: Chair, this video is part of the exchange between General Senona and Cat Matlala. It is his own, it is his own information. It is his own phone. It is his own WhatsApp chats. He says he has seen it. He has already given evidence about that video attachment. And so there was no, none of, there are a number of attachments here. You just need to click on it to play it. And if the team or the General did not remind himself of what is the contents of
10 these WhatsApp chats, that is for them to take responsibility for and not to suggest that there was some unfairness on behalf of, on the side of the Commission and the provision of the evidence.

CHAIRPERSON: Did I hear you, did I hear you to say that - what exactly do you say the General referred to in his evidence in the context of the video clip?

ADV HASSIM SC: You mean in earlier evidence?

CHAIRPERSON: You just now you referred to the General's evidence.

20 **ADV HASSIM SC:** Now in the context of the question?

CHAIRPERSON: In your, yes, yes, yes, that is exactly what I want to understand. What exactly are you saying the General touched on in his evidence? Are you saying he touched on something that referred to the clip or what exactly are you saying in that regard?

ADV HASSIM SC: Well, he acknowledge the clip. He acknowledged receiving it, seeing it, dismissing it and that questioning then proceeded from there. So this is not new to the witness. This is a clip that was shared with the witness by Mr Matlala.

I will also say that at the end of last year, when there were discussions between the evidence leaders and the witness's legal team, they assured the Commission that they had everything that they needed in their possession.
10 So if for some reason there were some attachments or information that they did not have access to, they could have alerted us to that.

CHAIRPERSON: When was this, for example, let me just refer to this, the file one of the exhibits file, when was that shared?

ADV HASSIM SC: File one of the exhibits was shared this week, but this particular exhibit, these chats, were shared with the witness last year. This very same page 15 was shared with the witness and his legal team last year.
20 just compiled it differently in this exhibit bundle for the purposes of today's questioning.

CHAIRPERSON: Ms Mafisa, we just want to get a full idea of the inner and outer contours of what you would like to see and maybe after that we will adjourn and possibly come back and make a ruling.

MS MAFISA: Thank you, Chairperson. I would just like to touch on, perhaps maybe I would just like to move backward prior to answering the Chairperson's question. So on ...[intervenes].

CHAIRPERSON: And maybe, when we are dealing with that, also touch on the point that Ms Hassim made, which is that these exhibits were actually shared and that the only, I do not even want to say issue, but the only matter, perhaps, is how they have now been packaged, but that they were
10 shared last year already. So when you tell us the inner and outer contours of what you want to see, please touch on that as well.

MS MAFISA: Thank you. Thank you, Chairperson. Thank you, Commissioners. On the 26th of November, we did come to an agreement that we are satisfied with everything, all the evidence that the Commission has given to us. However, I would like to make it quite clear that if you have a look at the chats, this particular video is not included as an annexure. So sorry, Chairperson, let me just move the
20 mic a bit closer. But this particular video is not included as an annexure.

So when we came to that agreement that we are satisfied and we are happy with all the information that has been provided to us, we simply looked at the witness statements and the annexures to the WhatsApp chats, which

is SEN1 to SEN7. We can confirm that we did receive SEN1 to SEN7. However, I do think, and I hate to use the same words over and over, but I do think it is quite unfair to pose a question to the legal team to say that the link was provided to us, or rather it was packaged in another way because the link was not provided to us.

Even if we look at the exhibit bundle that we have today before us, this particular video is not within the exhibit bundle. So that agreement, I should make it very
10 clear that we came to that agreement thinking that the only annexures that exist within this WhatsApp chat is SEN1 to SEN7. This is not one of those annexures.

If we knew that this particular video would perhaps maybe then have been used in Major General Senona's testimony, then we would have 100% then raised an issue and said, but this particular video has not been included. Even now with Major General Senona's testimony, Witness C's evidence has not been included in his testimony. So there is various things that we are, as a legal team, we are
20 unsure whether they are going to be used, whether they are not going to be used. So in good faith, we agreed that we have received every single thing that will be used for Major General Senona's testimony.

CHAIRPERSON: We are here now, what would you like to see, Ms Mafisa?

MS MAFISA: Chairperson, I think it is still a little bit difficult ...[intervenes].

CHAIRPERSON: Bearing in mind that the substance of your point is about fairness and unfairness.

MS MAFISA: Correct.

CHAIRPERSON: So what would you like to see?

MS MAFISA: Chairperson, perhaps maybe I should just put it within the hands of the evidence leader. If there are videos that have not been flagged as an annexure, such as
10 SEN1 to SEN7, then, and the evidence leader intends to use it within the testimony, then can we please receive it? All we want to do is to look at the evidence that will be presented from the Commission's side and have an opportunity to consult with Major General Senona based upon that.

CHAIRPERSON: As I said - do you wish to respond? As I said at the beginning, we would adjourn, consider the matter and come back because we do not want to make a ruling only tomorrow morning because that might delay us if
20 in the end we say that the video or videos must be shared because then the legal representatives and the General may need time to consider those which may delay us. So I think it is best, whichever way we go in the end, I think it is best for us to adjourn. As I indicated, we might have to - do you wish to respond to Ms Mafisa?

ADV HASSIM SC: Ja, I mean, again, Chair, this is the General's own WhatsApp exchanges. This is not something, and it was not an annexure. It was embedded in his WhatsApp exchanges. If there is information that the legal team feels they did not have, that they do not have access to, they cannot read properly, they cannot hear properly, they should have told us that. They never alerted us to anything. They never said, look, there is a video attachment, there is a video clip that you have included in
10 your information to us, but we cannot play it. They have never said that.

So, you know, I think it is a very belated objection. The question is, as you said, Chair, what do they want going forward? And I suppose the question is, am I going to rely on any other video clips that are part of the WhatsApp annexures and to provide that to the legal team. But I would have to just check again my notes to see. I do not think there are.

CHAIRPERSON: May I just find this out? If for example, I
20 were to send this document as is, but I send it electronically, no amount of clicking on there would make anything open. So in what format was this sent to the other side? Was it sent in a format that ordinarily, when you click on it, the clip, the video clip would open?

ADV HASSIM SC: So Chair, I cannot answer that because

there is a format that I have where you click on it and it opens.

CHAIRPERSON: Okay.

ADV HASSIM SC: And there might have been a format where you click on it and it does not open.

CHAIRPERSON: Yes.

ADV HASSIM SC: But we were never told that it is not openable from ...[intervenes].

CHAIRPERSON: That is just a matter of detail. I just
10 wanted to be clear of the facts.

ADV HASSIM SC: Ja.

CHAIRPERSON: Maybe we have reached that point where we should adjourn, but I will just listen to my colleagues. We have decided not to adjourn, and Ms Hassim, please provide Ms Mafisa with the video clip, and I ask the two sides to engage in discussions and if there are other materials which may also need to be shared, I request that between the two of you, you have those discussions and see what needs to be shared and it should then be shared
20 overnight so that tomorrow we are not delayed by something similar.

ADV HASSIM SC: Thank you, Chair.

CHAIRPERSON: Thank you. Your five minutes is long up. You said you would engage for only 5 minutes on the video.

MS MAFISA: Thank you for indulging me, Chair.

CHAIRPERSON: No, no problem at all. But I do not think, of course, this means the end on the debate around the video clip. We will adjourn until 9.30 tomorrow.

ADV HASSIM SC: Thank you, Chair.

CHAIRPERSON: Thank you.

INQUIRY ADJOURNS
