

**THE JUDICIAL COMMISSION OF INQUIRY INTO ALLEGATIONS
REGARDING EFFORTS OR ATTEMPTS TO STOP THE INVESTIGATION OR
PROSECUTION OF TRUTH AND RECONCILIATION COMMISSION CASES
(TRC CASES INQUIRY)**

HELD AT:

Sci-Bono Discovery Centre, Corner of Miriam Makeba & Helen Joseph Street
Newtown, Johannesburg

BEFORE:

COMMISSIONERS:

The Honourable Ms Justice Sisi Khampepe (Judge Ret.) – Chairperson
The Honourable Mr Justice Frans Diale Kgomo (Judge President Ret.)
Adv Andrea Gabriel (SC)

EVIDENCE LEADERS:

Adv Ishmael Semanya (SC)
Adv Vas Soni (SC)
Adv Fana Nalane (SC)
Adv Nompumelelo Seme
Ms Baitseng Rangata

REPRESENTATIVES

Adv Jannie Lubbe (for Lt Raymond Lalla)
Adv Motlalepule Rantho (for SAPS)
Adv Ebenezer Propy (for SAPS)
Adv Nwabisa Ntshizana (for Adv M Mpshe)
Adv Bridgette Nthambeleni (for Adv Jiba)
Adv Vivian Rikhotso (for Adv Menzi Simelane)
Adv Tlotlego Tsagae (DoJ representative)
Adv Matseleng Lekoane (DOJ representative)
Adv D Pillay – The Calata Group
Ms A Thakor – The Calata Group
Mr Siphon Tlhaole – The Calata Group
Adv Gwala (SC) – NPA representative
Adv Yanela Ntloko- NPA representative
Adv Irene de Vos for President Cyril Ramaphosa

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PROCEEDINGS ON 10 APRIL 2026

CHAIRPERSON: Mr Semenya.

ADV SEMENYA: Good morning, chair and commissioners. Today we have Commissioner Lalla, and my learned colleague, Mr Lubbe, will be leading the witness after he is sworn in.

CHAIRPERSON: Thank you. Mr Lalla, are you going to give your evidence under oath or affirmation?

MR LALLA: Good morning, chair and commissioners.

CHAIRPERSON: Morning, morning Mr Lalla.

10 MR LALLA: It will be under oath.

CHAIRPERSON: It will be under oath?

MR LALLA: Yes.

CHAIRPERSON: Thank you Mr Lalla. Mr Lalla, do you swear that the evidence you will give will be the truth, the whole truth and nothing but the truth? If so, raise your right hand and say, "So help me, God".

MR LALLA: So help me, God.

CHAIRPERSON: You may be seated, thank you. Mr Lubbe.

RAYMOND LALLA (duly sworn states)

20 EXAMINATION BY MR LUBBE: Thank you Chair. Commissioner, is it correct that you deposed to an affidavit in November last year, and recently also to a supplementary affidavit?

MR LALLA: Yes.

MR LUBBE: Before I start dealing with your evidence that is relevant to the Commission, I just need to provide a bit of background of

Commissioner Lalla to the Commission. Is it correct that you were born in Durban?

MR LALLA: Yes, I was born in Merebank, Durban.

MR LUBBE: And you completed your schooling?

MR LALLA: I completed my schooling there, and I am matriculated as well.

MR LUBBE: Yes, and then you had a brief stint at the university that was not successful.

MR LALLA: Yes.

10 MR LUBBE: Can I just ask that even in your school days, were you an activist?

MR LALLA: Yes, I was an activist, and I also joined the ANC underground.

MR LUBBE: Now, for some time you worked in Durban, but because of something that happened in Mozambique, you made a very important decision. Can you just explain that to the Commission?

MR LALLA: On 31 January there was a SADF raid in Matola, and 13 people were killed in the raid. One of them came from Merebank, he was my cousin, his name is Krishna Rabilal. And I knew another
20 who was also in the raid that was killed, he was Mduduzi Guma. And I initially did not know who was killed, who was not killed, and so I assumed that it was safe for me to live in South Africa.

Subsequently, two months later, I discovered that there were inquiries about me, because a document that was taken at Matola

was decoded and had some details or telephonic details about myself, but my real name was not on the document.

So where I worked, the then security police came to the place of work and they wanted to know about this fictitious Siphon. I knew I was Siphon, and we just dismissed it, that there is no one by the name.

So within the next few days I began mulling it, because I knew of a few other operatives in the ANC who were working in the underground. And the challenge that I had was that if I risked being
10 arrested, then I would cause more harm to others who are there. So I took a decision and I went into exile, and I will stop there.

MR LUBBE: Ja. Did you move to Swaziland, that is now Eswatini?

MR LALLA: Yes, I moved to Swaziland and I was amalgamated with the ANC structure. I was a member of the Natal Military Command of the ANC, and, yes.

MR LUBBE: All right, I am not going to dwell too much on your time in exile. Is it correct that during your time in exile you received military training in various countries, mostly focused on intelligence gathering?

20 MR LALLA: Yes, I received training in multiple countries, both in military and intelligence.

MR LUBBE: Thank you. Now we will start with your return to South Africa. When did you return?

MR LALLA: But I just want to tap on one issue.

MR LUBBE: Please do.

MR LALLA: In 1983 I was arrested by the Swazi police, and the leader of the Swazi police was a person called Captain Shiba. There were others arrested at different places in Swaziland. The impact of the Nkomati Accord was basically creating, weakening our presence in both Swaziland and Mozambique.

So I was arrested by the Swazi police, and then over a period of five or six days, while in detention waiting for the UN to be able to deport us to Tanzania, we were taken from the police station and a hood was put over our head. And we were not all together, we
10 were taken individually and we were seriously tortured.

But the hood was not removed, the hood was kept on the head and we were dunked in a container of water. And on one or two occasions I was electrocuted, but the issue of the dunking of the water and the suffocation lasted for about five or six days. They brought us to this secret place where the torture took place, and subsequently, with pressure from the United Nations at that time, we were all released and deported to Tanzania.

MR LUBBE: Thank you.

MR LALLA: I subsequently believed that the unit that did this
20 operation was SADF unit known as (Indistinct). I think somewhere in the TRC records they indicate they have done this. So I am not pursuing anything, but I thought it should be noted.

MR LUBBE: Thank you, Commissioner.

COMMISSIONER KGOMO: Now, just for the record, the torture, what did they want to extract from you?

MR LALLA: It was basically the ANC infrastructure in Swaziland and ANC infrastructure in South Africa.

COMMISSIONER KGOMO: Yes.

MR LUBBE: Thank you, commissioner. Can we then go to your return to South Africa? What year did you return to South Africa?

MR LALLA: In 1990 I returned to South Africa, and my mission was very clear, is to limit and to ensure that we respect the accord that was being put in place, the (Indistinct 0:11), and we are able to ensure that there is no disruptions to the talks about talks.

10 I was not a senior member of that group, but it was officially known as Operation Vula. But I was senior in the sense that I understood the military issues at hand, and we were basically tasked to ensure that this process is successful, it goes in tandem with the negotiations.

MR LUBBE: Thank you.

MR LALLA: Then I got arrested in July, or June, July, I cannot remember, 1990, and ...(intervenues)

MR LUBBE: Was that, sorry to interrupt you, that was at a safe house in Durban?

20 MR LALLA: It was in a safe house in Durban, and, ja.

MR LUBBE: Is it correct that at the same time several other members of the underground were arrested, who later became prominent ministers in government and also the head of the South African Defence Force?

MR LALLA: Yes.

MR LUBBE: Right. Where were you kept in custody?

MR LALLA: For a few nights I was kept in custody in CR Swart, and then I was removed to Bethlehem in the Free State.

MR LUBBE: Do you know why?

MR LALLA: Well, I later on worked it out that Indians were not allowed in the Free State at that time, or for 24 hours. So basically they wanted no communication with me. They assumed that because they understood my intelligence training, with any possible Indian who will provide information. I was not the only one that was taken to
10 Bethlehem. The former late Minister Pravin Gordhan was also taken to Bethlehem.

MR LUBBE: Okay, and you were kept in holding cells at the police station?

MR LALLA: Ja, we were kept in isolation at holding cells, and I did not know he was kept there, and I do not think he knew I was kept there.

MR LUBBE: And then you were later moved to Bloemfontein at Bayswater Police Station?

MR LALLA: Ja, but what happened at Bethlehem, we were both
20 tortured. How did I know we were tortured? Simply it was that I collapsed and I was rushed to hospital, and in the corridor I saw the former Minister Pravin, and in my drowsy stupor I smiled and he smiled, but we acted as if we did not know each other, but we knew each other from 1973.

MR LUBBE: Okay.

MR LALLA: So I felt content, but I went to the hospital, they put me on ventilators and all those things, and they knew my early history, medical history from my family who was trying to petition where we were detained. But anyway, from there they transferred me to Bayswater Police Station.

MR LUBBE: All right. I am sorry to have mentioned this terrible history in your life, but it was just to put your evidence in context for the Commission. If we can now start with your participation in the process of establishing a new democratic South Africa. There was a
10 CODESA meeting of the TVBC countries with the SADF, the ANC and APLA, which you co-chaired with a member of the South African Defence Force. What was the purpose of this?

MR LALLA: The purpose was to try and create a scenario for the new South Africa, whereby we had a common approach in basically neutralising speculations, suspicions and violence and taking the country forward. I can go into much detail.

MR LUBBE: No, no, that is fine, thank you. If we can start then with your professional career in the new South Africa. In 2001 you were appointed as head of Crime Intelligence.

20 MR LALLA: In 1995 ...(intervenes)

MR LUBBE: Have I got it wrong?

MR LALLA: Ja, there were 11 of us from the non-structural forces that were amalgamated into KwaZulu Police, which had a strength of about 15 000. We were all integrated as warrant officers, and due to the escalation of the violence in KwaZulu-Natal, by December 1995 I

was appointed as head of what we would call the "Old Security Branch, and at that stage it was called "Internal Security". So from 1995 to 2000 I worked in KwaZulu-Natal as the head of the then Internal Security, and I became the commander of some of those who were involved in my torture in Bethlehem.

MR LUBBE: Thank you. So is it then correct that from 2001 to 2007 you were the head of Crime Intelligence in SAPS?

MR LALLA: Yes, in 2001 I applied for a job, in round about 2000 I applied for a job, and in 2001 I got appointed as head of Crime
10 Intelligence, National Head of Crime Intelligence in South Africa, with my main task to be able to transform the old security police and the remnants of Internal Security into a Crime Intelligence cohesive division.

MR LUBBE: Thank you. And then in 2008 to 2011 you were the head of the Detective Services.

MR LALLA: Yes, in 2007, 2008, General De Beer, who was my predecessor as head of Detective Services, left Detective Services and I was asked to head the Detective Services. So I left Crime
20 Intelligence in January 2008, and I became the head of Detective Services until 2011.

In the period of while I was appointed the Detective head, we embarked, my then acting national commissioner, myself and other senior management embarked on a process of restructuring and doing a work study on the whole of the Detective Services.

So during that process of the restructuring of the Detective Services, we took a decision that we will create a Directorate of Priority Crimes that will be separated from the Detective Services and will be a standing entity on its own.

The reason why we did that is that we felt that a bulk of our cases that were at the localised level, things like violence against women and children, domestic violence, house robberies were being neglected, and most detectives and most investigators were being incorporated in terms of the larger violent crimes and would have
10 longer lifespan.

So by dividing this, I became the head of only the Detective Services at station level, and I agreed with the police management that two of my deputies, General De Beer and General Meiring, General De Beer was the head of some of the specialised units, General Meiring was head of the Commercial Crimes, that they would be allocated to the DPCI.

So come June 2009, a new national commissioner was appointed and a new DPCI head was appointed, and therefore, all priority crimes that was in the vagueness of the periphery of station,
20 and what have you, were now shifted to one single unit. Sorry, I was a bit elaborate.

MR LUBBE: No, no, thank you. Then you left SAPS, and from 2011 to 2022 you had an appointment at the South African Revenue Services.

MR LALLA: Yes, from 2011 to 2022 I worked with the South African Revenue Services.

MR LUBBE: Thank you.

MR LALLA: My job over there was basically stakeholder management, interaction with the law enforcement agencies, the Prosecuting Authority, and also dealing with FATF and various other issues that were facing us at that time.

MR LUBBE: Thank you. So with this background, is it correct that we have carefully looked at all the documentation on the website of this
10 Commission? We have carefully perused the transcription of evidence provided to this Commission by various witnesses, and there is not a single shred of implication, of implicating you in any of the terms of reference of this commission, is that correct?

MR LALLA: That is totally correct. I come from a history, and perhaps in one of my statements I said that I might be "jumping the gun". I am not a very coherent, disciplined person in following the patterns of papers. When the four people who applied for amnesty for my torture, I also applied for amnesty for my activities of the ANC.

MR LUBBE: Yes.

20 MR LALLA: So I recognise the fact that we have to respect the TRC process. So there is nothing to show that I am implicated in any of (indistinct).

MR LUBBE: Thank you. And just for the record, did you oppose the application for amnesty of the people who tortured you?

MR LALLA: No.

MR LUBBE: Thank you. During your stint ...(intervenes)

COMMISSIONER KGOMO: So you applied for amnesty, and you were granted amnesty?

MR LALLA: Yes, I applied for amnesty for all my activities in the ANC, and was granted amnesty.

COMMISSIONER KGOMO: Yes.

10 MR LUBBE: Thank you, thank you, commissioner. Now, during your period with SAPS as first the Head of Crime Intelligence, later Head of Detective Services, were there of the TRC dockets under your control?

MR LALLA: No TRC dockets were under my control.

MR LUBBE: Did you at any stage, since your involvement with SAPS until you left in 2011 try to influence or stop the prosecution of any TRC matters?

20 MR LALLA: It was not within me. I wanted these cases, I wanted those families. I have lost a lot of people who were very close to me, and here I must pay a little bit of tribute to Captain Wilson Magadla, and to another person, whom I call Jenny Irish, who at the time when we were looking for bodies in the early stages of the TRC, they gave me, well, they overworked me. But we just did it, we needed to find, we needed the families to have closure. So I would not in any way disrupt any of the cases of the TRC.

MR LUBBE: Thank you, thank you very much for that. Now, I want to deal now with the evidence of Adv Ackerman SC before this Commission, where he mentioned you, in that there was a meeting in

your office early, 2003. And according to his evidence, he was accompanied by Adv MacAdam and Adv Pretorius.

MR LALLA: Yes.

MR LUBBE: Who asked for this meeting, commissioner?

MR LALLA: The meeting was requested by Adv MacAdam because of a previous history I had with him in KwaZulu-Natal when we were searching for bodies. And he said to me they set up a new unit and he wants to introduce me to Adv Ackerman, I agreed to the meeting.

MR LUBBE: Okay, thank you. Now, it is not in dispute that you
10 recorded this meeting.

MR LALLA: It was, it is not in dispute at all. I took the decision, a personal decision at my own discretion to record the meeting.

MR LUBBE: Can you please briefly motivate to the commissioners why you did that?

MR LALLA: Historically, when it came to investigation of cases, there was a lot of confusion about who is investigating what, who is investigating what. So I am now the head of Crime Intelligence, and I questioned myself, that why am I being asked about this structure because, I understood it as the PCLU was going to look for
20 investigative capacities within the NDPP, NPA and within SAPS.

I was not responsible for any of the investigators in the NPA or in SAPS. So I went into the meeting, in the back of my mind hoping that I can learn something a bit more tangible as to how to carry the TRC process forward.

And on the basis of that I recorded the meeting, because there was multiple misinformation, disinformation of how structures are working, or whether people can interfere in prosecutions or not interfere in prosecutions, and so there was a lot of confusion around that.

So on the basis of that I thought it is best that I record the meeting, so when I communicate to my subordinates I am in a position to tell them categorically where to operate, what is the parameters of operation and where to back off.

10 Because I thought as the meeting proceeded with Adv Ackerman, but let me not come there, I will come there later, but what I want to explain is that I deliberately recorded it. I did not tell him, I saw no reason in telling him, it is in my office, I am the Head of Crime Intelligence, so I want to keep proper recordings of what goes on.

 Because very often people will leave our office and be able to communicate adverse things as if we agreed with them, and that was the sum total of my experience when we dealt with the violence in KwaZulu-Natal. One adversary or the other will come and want to
20 represent the story as if the police agrees with them.

MR LUBBE: Can I just ask you, I know it has been 23 years ago, and that we have requested from the Commission a copy of the recording, which is not available anymore, but can you perhaps recall at this meeting who did most of the talking?

MR LALLA: Ja, the meeting started with a whole lot of politeness, of introduction and what is happening, and a short description of the PCLU is going to deal with investigators from the NDPP, NPA, or what have you, and SAPS.

And after a few minutes I was just taken aback, I was taken aback and I felt a little bit sad, because Adv Ackerman just broke down about telling me the problems of everybody. So I did not know how to proceed with the meeting. We concluded with the meeting, I think it was 20, 30 minutes, and I left it. I felt sorry for him, I did not
10 know why, but I just thought he had a breakdown.

MR LUBBE: Can I just interrupt you there? I have carefully looked at the evidence of Adv Ackerman and Adv MacAdam, and nowhere in the evidence or in the affidavits do they provide any details of this discussion. And I understand from you that you cannot at this stage go into detail because you cannot remember it, is that correct?

MR LALLA: Yes, I do not want to cast aspersion, or what have you, or second guess, and what have you. I realise sometimes, even in my pre-statement I quoted, in the first statement, for example, I quoted Dr Jacobs, and later on I learnt by working things out he was
20 not present at the meeting, it could have been somebody else from Legal Services.

So all I am saying is that, as the TRC unfolded, as this Commission of Inquiry unfolded and I began listening to some of these, I realised that I must not speculate. So all I remember of that, because there were lots of discussions that took place, or

speculations that took place after that, but I do not want to create any doubt.

The recording was done, and in that recording is what spells out what happened. I cannot remember the details, I was just so emotionally taken aback by Adv Ackerman's, I think breakdown, I do not know how to put it, but it is my own interpretation.

MR LUBBE: Okay, you did not immediately took this recording to anybody, or handed it to your staff or to the Commissioner. How did it come about that this recording was again mentioned?

10 MR LALLA: I think two or three days after my meeting at one of our own in-house meetings, the National Commissioner, the Deputy National Commissioner and the Head of Detectives were there. And I informed them that I had a meeting with Adv Ackerman and Adv Pretorius and Adv MacAdam.

And I put it as the whole unit, the PCL unit is having "teething problems" getting around, and at some stage or the other they will contact the Detective Services. I did not find it proper at that time to express the breakdown of Adv Ackerman.

MR LUBBE: Or the recording?

20 MR LALLA: Or the recording.

MR LUBBE: So how did it happen that the recording became...?

MR LALLA: Some months later, I do not know, a year or a month later, but I think it is some months later if I look at the date, I was called by the then National Commissioner, who spoke to me about another aspect I was dealing with with the Foreign Law Enforcement

Agency in regards to anthrax dispatch. And then he said, by the way
...(intervenes)

COMMISSIONER KGOMO: Who was the then National
Commissioner?

MR LALLA: It was National Commissioner Jackie Salebe.

COMMISSIONER KGOMO: Yes.

MR LALLA: Yes. Sorry, am I soft? Oh, sorry, sorry.

MR LUBBE: Can you sit just a bit closer to the microphone, please?

MR LALLA: They should make the cord longer, because of the
10 tummy. Okay, the National Commissioner was Commissioner Selebe,
so it was a telephonic conversation. I said to him, you know what, I
do not want to go into details with who said what, but I said I did
record the meeting, here is the recording. He is my accounting officer
and he should know the truth, and I gave him the recording, well,
somebody in my staff gave him the recording.

MR LUBBE: Just for clarity, was there any purpose of handing this to
the Commissioner to get to Adv Ackerman, or to try and stop or
prevent prosecutions going forward?

MR LALLA: Nothing. They all knew me, and throughout the period,
20 that intermittent period, even Adv Chris MacAdam from time to time
asked me to help him with one or two issues. So I did not have any
malice or any intention of wanting to stop the prosecution. I think this
was just an isolated incident, and the only person who can explain his
behaviour is Adv Ackerman ...(intervenes)

COMMISSIONER KGOMO: Leave it at you did not try to stop the investigation or the prosecution. You should not only speak about the prosecution, because the terms of reference refers to the ... (intervenes)

MR LALLA: Okay, thanks for the correction, thanks for the correction, sorry, I am just speaking off the cuff, for the investigation and prosecution of the cases, thank you for the correction.

MR LUBBE: Now, commissioner, we know that, according to the evidence of Adv Ackerman, this recording was played to him by
10 Adv Bulelani Ngcuka. Were you present at that meeting?

MR LALLA: I was not present, and I did not know how the then National Commissioner handled the recording.

MR LUBBE: Thank you. Lastly, you were also mentioned in evidence and in his statement by Adv MacAdam. Is there anything that he said in his statement and evidence that you dispute?

MR LALLA: I had the meetings with him, as I explained earlier, in 2008. And the meeting was basically to create and help him create the capacity that he wanted when I became head of Detective Services. But he wanted me to employ people who were outside on
20 contractual levels; I was not in a position to do that.

And at that stage, in 2008/2009, we were creating a capacity that would deal with the priority crimes investigation, which the TRC fell. And I gave a third of my capacity to the priority crimes investigation, so that was only in 2008/2009, ja.

MR LUBBE: Thank you. That is the evidence, commissioners.

CHAIRPERSON: Thank you, Mr Lubbe. Ms Pillay, any clarificatory questions to put to the witness?

ADV PILLAY: Thank you, Chair, We do not have any clarificatory questions. But we will be bringing an application to cross-examine the witness, thank you.

CHAIRPERSON: Thank you. Ms Rantho.

ADV RANTHO: Thank you. Good morning, commissioners. Good morning, Commissioner Lalla, General Lalla. Thank you. From the Police side we just want to seek clarity as to the meeting that you
10 held with the then National Commissioner. There was a DNC present, and you also indicated that there was a head of Detectives present. Any recollections as to who those were, the DNC at the time, the Deputy National Commissioner who was present?

MR LALLA: It was Commissioner Williams.

ADV RANTHO: Oh, it was Commissioner Williams. And then the head of Detectives?

MR LALLA: It was Commissioner De Beer at that time. But what I must concede is that we were meeting regularly, and sometimes they may have sent a subordinate, but Commissioner Williams was
20 present. Sometimes Commissioner De Beer may have sent a subordinate, sometimes the head of Legal Services may have sent an alternative Legal Service person. And I am just clarifying that I am not a hundred percent sure of each and every meeting.

ADV RANTHO: I am with you. And I heard you correctly that there was someone from Legal, but you can remember very well that it was not General Jacobs, as you said?

MR LALLA: Yes.

ADV RANTHO: But you cannot remember as to who that person was?

MR LALLA: The Legal Department sent different people intermittently, but because I thought that General Jacobs was dealing with the issue, I assumed it was him. But now with the recollection
10 and looking at issues at hand, I could be totally mistaken as to who the Legal person was.

ADV RANTHO: Thank you, general. And then the handing over of the video recording of your meeting with Adv Ackerman, MacAdam, and Pretorius. I think I heard counsel leading you ...(intervenes)

COMMISSIONER KGOMO: Was it video recordings or audio?

ADV RANTHO: I mean the recording.

MR LALLA: It was video and audio.

COMMISSIONER KGOMO: Oh, okay.

ADV RANTHO: It has been quite confusing, Commissioner Kgomo,
20 because we have requested several times to provide for it. And I think it came out as a video recording, but we were quite uncertain, I think, until General Lalla now came before the Commission. But what I also heard during the questioning by counsel leading Commissioner Lalla was that there was a request from the Commission for a copy of the recording, is it not?

MR LALLA: Yes.

ADV RANTHO: And perhaps it is also important to record that same has been, such request has also been made by the Commission from the SAPS. And now that finally we get to know that, firstly, there is confirmation that indeed there was such a recording of some sort, do you remember as to how it was handed over to the National Commissioner?

MR LALLA: Ja, I cannot remember that, but I think that normally he would send someone from his staff to collect it from Crime
10 Intelligence, but I cannot remember the people who were involved at that stage.

ADV RANTHO: So it was actually collected from you?

MR LALLA: It was collected from the Office of Crime Intelligence.

ADV RANTHO: Okay, and was it sealed in whatever manner, or was it packaged, do you remember?

MR LALLA: Ja, it was packaged and sealed, I would assume, ja.

ADV RANTHO: Anybody who signed for it?

MR LALLA: I cannot recall. I have tried to check and I have tried to find out, because I thought it would be useful for the Commission to
20 hear this, and I have failed. People have left, people have gone, and so that is the challenge I have.

ADV RANTHO: At the time when you left, that was in 2011, I think, you did not come across the recording after that?

MR LALLA: I never came across the recording after that.

ADV RANTHO: After you handed it over to someone that you cannot remember?

MR LALLA: Ja, but I left Crime Intelligence in 2007, I left Detective Services in 2011.

ADV RANTHO: Yes, as you said, the video was recorded at the time when you were head of Crime Intelligence.

MR LALLA: As head of Crime Intelligence, yes.

ADV RANTHO: Yes. And the handing over was not done by you personally, was it?

10 MR LALLA: Not by me personally, ja.

ADV RANTHO: So any recollection as to who from your staff would have handed over that recording?

MR LALLA: I believe it was a person, but I believe she is late, and I am not sure, but I have to check on that. And I can try and look, but the whole staff is totally new there, and I do not have any names of anybody or any contact numbers of the new people. And that is why I had to, as you asked me earlier, why did not I employ the Police Services, I did not know what to do, thanks.

20 ADV RANTHO: Thank you, commissioner. Commissioners, that is all from our side.

CHAIRPERSON: Thank you, Ms Rantho. Yes, ma'am.

MS LEKOANE: We do not have any clarificatory questions on behalf of the Minister of Justice.

CHAIRPERSON: Thank you, thank you. Please place your name on record?

ADV NTHAMBELENI: Thank you, chair, Adv Bridgette Nthambeleni.

I appear on behalf of Adv Jiba, together with Adv Mokhare SC. We do not have any clarificatory questions for this witness.

CHAIRPERSON: Thank you, Ms Nthambeleni. Ms Rikhotso. Oh, yes.

ADV NTSHIZANZ: Good morning, Commissioners. I represent the ex-NDPP (indistinct) ...(intervenes)

COMMISSIONER KGOMO: You will have to speak up a bit, ma'am.

10 ADV NTSHIZANA: Good morning, commissioners. I represent the ex-NPA officials, with (indistinct) and Adv Bhana SC. We do not have any clarification questions at the moment, thank you, chair.

CHAIRPERSON: Thank you. Ms Rikhotso.

ADV RIKHOTSO: Thank you, commissioners. We do not have any clarification questions for this witness, thank you.

CHAIRPERSON: Thank you. Ms Ntloko.

ADV NTLOKO: Good morning, Commissioners. We currently do not have any clarification questions for this particular witness.

CHAIRPERSON: Thank you. Ms. De Vos.

20 ADV DE VOS: Thank you, chair. We have no clarification questions for this witness.

CHAIRPERSON: Thank you. Mr Semenya?

ADV SEMENYA: Chair, I now hear Ms Pillay on behalf of the Calata Group indicating an intention to cross-examine, which consequently says to us we cannot put questions until that cross-examination has happened. But might I add that the rules around cross-examination

are very clear that there is no such right, and I keep hearing various parties reserving their rights to bring an application to cross-examine.

In the circumstances, unless directed differently later, I wish to make it known to everybody that there is no such right that they are reserving. And with your permission, chair, we are in the circumstances going to defer our questions to the commissioner.

CHAIRPERSON: Yes. Ms Pillay, you intend to bring an application for the cross-examination of Mr Lalla?

ADV PILLAY: That is correct, Chair.

10 CHAIRPERSON: Can you give an indication of when you intend to bring that application? Are you able to do so at this stage?

ADV PILLAY: Chair, we will be able to do so by Monday. Is that acceptable?

CHAIRPERSON: That is acceptable.

ADV PILLAY: Thank you, chair, we are indebted.

CHAIRPERSON: Thank you. Mr Lubbe.

MR LUBBE: Chair, thank you.

CHAIRPERSON: I dare say from the clarificatory questions that have been put to your witness, there is no re-examination on your part?

20 MR LUBBE: No, thank you. But I just want to place it on record, and I agree with my colleague, there is no basis for any application to cross-examine Commissioner Lalla, and we will strenuously object to such an application.

CHAIRPERSON: Yes.

MR LUBBE: He was not implicated by anybody.

CHAIRPERSON: Yes.

MR LUBBE: Thank you, chair.

CHAIRPERSON: But it is Ms Pillay's right to apply for cross-examination, and for the Commission to rule on her application.

MR LUBBE: Absolutely, I fully agree, chair, thank you.

CHAIRPERSON: Yes, thank you. Mr Lalla, we thank you for having availed yourself to give evidence before the Commission. As you have heard, there is an intention to apply for your cross-examination by the Calata Group. You may therefore have to avail yourself for
10 such cross-examination if that application is granted, but for now, you are excused as a witness.

MR LALLA: Thank you, Madam Commissioner.

MR LUBBE: Thank you, chair.

CHAIRPERSON: These proceedings are adjourned until Tuesday. Am I correct, Mr Semenya?

ADV SEMENYA: That is correct, chair.

CHAIRPERSON: What is the date on Tuesday?

ADV SEMENYA: One, four, chair.

CHAIRPERSON: These proceedings are adjourned until Tuesday,
20 the 14 April, at 10 o'clock. We are adjourned.

INQUIRY ADJOURNS UNTIL 14 APRIL 2026

CERTIFICATE OF VERACITY

I, the undersigned, hereby certify that **as far as it is audible**, the foregoing is a true and correct transcript of the digitally recorded proceedings in the matter of:

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