



## **EFF STATEMENT REJECTING THE APPOINTMENT OF ADVOCATE GCALEKA AS PUBLIC PROTECTOR BY THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY**

Thursday, 19 October 2023.

The Economic Freedom Fighters (EFF) vehemently rejects the appointment of Advocate Kholeka Gcaleka as the Public Protector, after being officially appointed by the National Assembly earlier today.

Gcaleka's appointment hardly catches us off guard, for we have emphatically underscored that this appointment bears the hallmarks of a quid pro quo arrangement—a reward for absolving Cyril Ramaphosa of any wrongdoing and conflicts of interest in the Phala Phala investigation by the Public Protector's office.

This is despite the findings of a Section 89 Independent Panel, which unequivocally confirmed that the President had transgressed our Constitution and the Executive Members Ethics Act (EMEA).

Furthermore, Gcaleka's findings also came to light during her tenure as the acting Public Protector, which followed Advocate Busisiwe Mkhwebane's abrupt suspension, a mere day after the latter initiated an investigation into the substantial foreign currency concealed within furniture at Ramaphosa's farm.

This appointment is, therefore, undeniably tainted, raising valid concerns about the independence and impartiality of our Chapter 9 institutions. As South Africans, we must acknowledge that everything the ANC comes into contact with descends into corruption and scandal, failing to serve the public's best interests.

With a compromised figure now at the helm of the Public Protector's office, we fear it may steer in a direction that prioritises shielding the nefarious interests of the ruling party over its duty to protect and uphold the law.

South Africans unequivocally deserve Chapter 9 institutions committed to fairness, impartiality, and, above all, integrity. Gcaleka's appointment threatens to undermine these crucial tenets. As we march forward to the 2024 elections, let every citizen bear in mind that we stand at a pivotal juncture, one where we can no longer afford to yield to compromised leadership. The time has come for us to seize control and resurrect the honour of our Constitution.



**ISSUED BY THE ECONOMIC FREEDOM FIGHTERS**

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