



**Save South Africa**

**MEDIA STATEMENT: FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**31 October 2016**

## **NPA decisions shows we can stop state capture**

Today's decision by the National Director of Public Prosecution to withdraw charges against the Finance Minister and his two former SARS colleagues is confirmation of the power of civic activism – and a clear sign that united people's pressure can stop further attempts at state capture.

No matter how the National Director of Public Prosecutions tries to spin today's backdown, the reality is that the charges have been dropped because:

- They were spurious and baseless in the first place.
- They were politically motivated, and part of a broader state capture project to get access to the national purse.

It is abundantly clear that the National Director of Public Prosecutions and his handlers completely under-estimated the level of outrage that their actions would provoke – whether it was pressure from civil society organisations in court, or pressure on the streets.

**South Africa has spoken out, and the NDPP had no choice but to back down – to avoid humiliation, and in an attempt to save face.**

Shaun Abrahams has embarrassed himself and undermined the integrity of the NPA in the process. The same can be said of the head of the Hawks, Berning Ntlemeza.

They have caused tremendous damage to South Africa's international reputation, to the economy, and to the integrity of the state. Rather than wasting time trying to save face, they should step down -- before they face the next wave of public pressure.

**Their actions were reckless and irresponsible, and they must be condemned – along with their handlers, the overall architects of state capture.**

The Save South Africa campaign is more determined than ever to build on this victory. As indicated yesterday, the “People’s Assembly Against State Capture” will go ahead in Pretoria this Wednesday 2 November. It will be a rally marking victory in this initial battle to protect Treasury from state capture, and consolidating the broader campaign against state capture -- to stop the looting and corruption, and to restore the integrity of the state.

**All people in SA who are committed to social justice, whatever their political or ideological beliefs, must rally to defend the Constitution, constitutional & statutory institutions, and the state as a whole from capture.**

We appeal to all who are concerned about corruption to join us – not just on 2 November, but in the continued ongoing peaceful campaigns and civic

activities that require all our energies, and in particular require all of us to participate in civic action for change.

We have to continue to show that we are committed to this country, its economy and to addressing the acute social crisis that has been brought about by corruption, mismanagement and political intrigue.

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