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Empangeni cops locked out of premises over unpaid rent

POLICE officers of the Crime Intelligence unit in Empangeni, KwaZulu-Natal, found themselves locked out of their offices yesterday because the rent for the premises they use has not been paid.

Police officers arriving at the building found the gates locked, with a sign that read in big bold red letters: "Notice. These premises have been locked due to non-payment of rental. By Management."

The building, known as Property House, is located on Rex Henderson Road in Empangeni.

It is understood that about 40 police officers work there.

It was not immediately known who the owners of the building were or how much they were owed by the Department of Public Works.

Police spokesman Lieutenant-Colonel Thulani Zwane said: "We confirm the incident.

"For more information please contact the Department of Public Works."

Public Works spokesman Thami Mchunu was not immediately available to comment.

Provincial public works spokesman Mbulelo Baloyi said he could not comment as the issue fell under the national office of the Department of Public Works. – ANA