

Public Works officials face charges

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suspended without pay for three months. Public Works chief director of legal services Barnie Ntlou confirmed that Molosi had pleaded guilty. Molosi was given a "final written warning and [told] never to be involved in any form of tender process until he has undergone training on procurement". A second official, Belinda Motola,

died in a car crash. Ntlou said the disciplinary hearings would start today. "The officials are broadly charged with having not followed procurement processes in the appointment of contractors in the upgrading of the president's Nkandla homestead.

"We currently have 10 officials [facing] a full-blown disciplinary process," he said. "We are likely to remain with nine officials facing a disciplinary process as one official is to retire by the end of this month," said Ntlou. He said the officials had all been part of the bid adjudication

committee that appointed Makhanya as architect. "They did not follow the processes to appoint the contractor," he alleged. But the Public Servants' Association, which is defending the 10 officials, said it was "strange" that the arraigned officials would com-

mit offences when their track records were "spotless". The association's KwaZulu-Natal manager, Claude Naicker, said: "They have been on the bid evaluation committee for a number of years, performing these duties, not only on Nkandla but on every other project involving the department. "None of these employees has been charged previously for any other misconduct. Why on this project were people charged?"