

# KSA seeks to protect the City pending finalisation of tender process

**SHARIKA REGCHAND**

MIRED in controversy, Khuselani Security & Risk Management (KSA) is fighting to continue protecting the City and keeping jobs, until at least September.

Its dealings with Msunduzi Municipality were supposed to have ended this month, but the Pietermaritzburg high court yesterday threw it another lifeline.

The company has brought an urgent application to force Msunduzi to continue using its services until the municipality's tender for the appointment of new security service providers is finalised and implemented.

But since the court could not hear the matter yesterday, the municipality had to agree to keep KSA until June 28, pending the finalisation of the matter.

Managing director of KSA Mahomed Yacoob said in court papers that before April 30, his company provided security services to the municipality in terms of two contracts.

One related to the supply of security services, including security officers and VIP security officers at various facilities and public works. The contract was awarded in August 2014 and the monthly remuneration from the municipality is about R3,5 million.

The other, valued at R5,3 million a month, was awarded in May 2017. It includes: guarding ward offices, cable sites, libraries, informal settlements and armed security roving services.

He added KSA has committed substantial resources to provide its services.

The municipality ended the contracts with effect from February 28.

At the time, *The Witness* reported this was amid allegations of fraud against KSA but this is not mentioned in KSA's papers.

In his affidavit, Yacoob said that KSA instituted legal proceedings against the municipality after its contract was terminated. The matter was then resolved on the basis that the contracts would

end by agreement on April 30.

And on that date the municipality appointed KSA to continue providing the services until it finalises and implements the tender for a new service provider. He said that KSA understood that it was being appointed exclusively — until the tender is implemented. It agreed to the contract “against considerable risk and exposure to itself”.

“This included KSA having to retain employees whom it may otherwise have been obliged to retrench if the contracts ended on April 30.”

On May 9, municipal manager Sizwe Hadebe terminated the agreements.

The letter is inconsistent with the municipality's own conduct. It is not in the interests of the City or its residents,

Yacoob said.

“It could have only been motivated by extraneous factors and possibly interference by third parties. The municipality has acknowledged that KSA's services are needed in order to protect the city's assets and has expressly stated that the municipality is under an obligation to appoint KSA, until the new tender is implemented.”

Yacoob claims the letter was motivated “by the ulterior purpose of appointing other persons to provide the same services”.

KSA was appointed on the basis it will continue until at least September.

He also spoke extensively about the effect the municipality's decision will have on his 742 employees.

Yacoob continued that he has now learned that “certain officials of the municipality and the Special Investigating Unit” instructed or directed Hadebe to terminate the agreement.

*The Witness* reported earlier this month that the SIU wants KSA to pay back R554,8 million lost by Msunduzi over its allegedly unlawful contracts.

Yesterday Amazim-Zim Security Services and Private Investigators as well as Division Alpha Security brought separate urgent applications to prevent the municipality from appointing a short-term service provider pending the finalisation of the new contract. These matters have also been adjourned to June 28, with no orders being granted.

• [sharika.regchand@witness.co.za](mailto:sharika.regchand@witness.co.za)