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Media Statement:

COPE WELCOMES SCA RULING ON IRREGULAR EXPENDITURE AT NELSON MANDELA BAY METRO.

For immediate release:

The Congress of the People (COPE) welcomes the landmark ruling by the Supreme Court of Appeal (SCA) in the case involving the recovery of irregular expenditures by the Nelson Mandela Bay Municipality. This is in Case No 272/2023 (2024) ZASCA 151, delivered on 8 November 2024.

The SCA upheld a previous decision by the High Court in Gqeberha, which found that former municipal officials were responsible for illegal spending of R7,638,177.10, violating the Municipal Finance Management Act (MFMA). This ruling is a crucial step in ensuring that public officials are held accountable for their actions even if they resign to avoid accountability which has been the practice of corrupt officials.


The case involved the appointment of a consultancy firm, to create a communication and marketing strategy for the Municipality's Integrated Public Transport System (IPTS). This contract was awarded without following the proper tender process, breaking the municipality's rules and the MFMA. As a result, the municipality made illegal payments to the service provider.

COPE sees this ruling as a major step in ensuring public officials are personally held accountable for their actions. It is a game-changer in the fight against pervasive impunity aided and abetted by a corrupt government led by the ANC.

COPE will initiate a public awareness campaign and work with other stakeholders in all municipalities to identify instances of irregular expenditure and demand that the accounting officers implement this groundbreaking law. As COPE, we commend the SCA to ensure proper fiscal management and accountability.

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