



MEDIA RELEASE

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JICS OPENS ITS DOORS TO SERVE IN THE EASTERN CAPE

The Judicial Inspectorate for Correctional Services (JICS) opened its regional office in the Eastern Cape, East London this week.

The Eastern Cape was previously served by this office from George in the Western Cape. The office served the whole of the Western Cape, part of the Northern Cape and part of the Eastern Cape. The Eastern Cape was divided into different parts in terms of service delivery, which meant it was serviced not only by the George Office, but also from Bloemfontein (servicing the eastern most areas) and Durban (servicing the northern parts of the province).

This led to a fragmented service, improper record keeping and the application of resources in this province was simply not adequate, especially due to the vast distances that needed to be covered. A decision was taken to align the regional offices and their services to the boundaries of provinces, which would streamline the resources available to each province and better service the Eastern Cape community.

JICS currently has five Regional Offices:

- KZNMR (Kwa-Zulu Natal Management Region) in Durban,
- NMR (Northern Management Region) in Centurion,
- CMR (Central Management Region) in Bloemfontein,
- WCMR (Western Cape Management Region) and
- ECMR (Eastern Cape Management Region) situated in East London.

The ECMR office has been operational since 1 September 2018, and is situated on the third floor of the East London Magistrates Court. This office is capacitated to deal

with all matters as mandated by the Judicial Inspectorate. The office has three inspectors, with one regional trainer/inspector and the necessary support personnel.

JICS gets its mandate from Section 85 of the Correctional Services Act, which requires JICS to hold the Department of Correctional Services accountable for its treatment of inmates and on conditions in correctional centres and remand detention facilities.

The oversight functions performed by JICS ensures that all inmates are treated with dignity and their human rights are protected. This promotes a smooth reintegration of released inmates from incarceration back into society and rehabilitated citizens.

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Media Enquiry:

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