

Media Statement – 24 January 2025
TO ALL NEWS EDITORS AND JOURNALISTS

RE: SPECIAL OFFICIAL PROVINCIAL FUNERAL DECLARATION FOR LATE THONIAS “RAY” MALELE

The Premier of Limpopo, Dr Phophi Ramathuba, has received approval from President Matamela Cyril Ramaphosa for the funeral of the late Thonias “Ray” Malele to be declared an Special Official Provincial Funeral Category Two. The funeral is scheduled to take place on 25 January 2025 in Polokwane, Capricorn District.

Comrade Thonias Malele, also known as Raymond "Ray" Segodi, was born on November 7, 1962, and grew up during South Africa's turbulent apartheid era. Inspired by historical figures and the struggles of his people, he joined the Congress of South African Students in 1979 and became a key figure in the liberation movement.

As a member of uMkhonto we Sizwe and the ANC, he trained in Angola and the USSR, contributing significantly to the fight against apartheid. After returning to South Africa, he worked in public service and education. Remembered for his dedication, kindness, and leadership, Malele's legacy continues to inspire future generations.

In accordance with the declaration, the South African flag will fly at half-mast in Limpopo on the day of the funeral as a mark of respect for the Thonias Malele. No other flag will be hoisted on that day, symbolising the solemnity and significance of the occasion.

Premier Dr Ramathuba expressed her deep gratitude to President Ramaphosa for granting this honour to Cde Malele.

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