

**IN THE EQUALITY COURT OF SOUTH AFRICA  
(GAUTENG DIVISION, PRETORIA)**

Case No: 90405/18

In the matter between

**SOUTH AFRICAN NATIONAL EDITORS' FORUM**

First Complainant

**NAVARANJENI MUNUSAMY**

Second Complainant

**PAULI VAN WYK**

Third Complainant

**ADRIAAN JURGENS BASSON**

Fourth Complainant

**MAX DU PREEZ**

Fifth Complainant

**BARRY BATEMAN**

Sixth Complainant

And

**THE ECONOMIC FREEDOM FIGHTERS**

First Respondent

**JULIUS SELLO MALEMA**

Second Respondent

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**REPLYING AFFIDAVIT - MAX DU PREEZ**

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I, the undersigned,

**MAX DU PREEZ**

state the following under oath:

1. I am the fifth complainant in this matter.

2. Except where the context indicates otherwise, the facts contained in this affidavit are within my personal knowledge, and are, to the best of my belief, both true and correct.
3. I deposed to a supporting affidavit in this matter.
4. I have read the answering affidavit of Mr Julius Sello Malema, deposed to on his own behalf (as first respondent) and on behalf of the Economic Freedom Fighters (as second respondent).
5. I have also read the replying affidavit of Ms Mahlatse Mahlase, deposed to on behalf of the South African National Editors' Forum (as first complainant). I confirm that the contents of Ms Mahlase's replying affidavit are true and correct in so far as they relate to me.
6. I wish to make the following additional statements in reply to Mr Malema's affidavit:
  - 6.1. The practice of politicians to insult and threaten certain groups or journalists, thus sending messages to their supporters to act, is one that I have experienced for many years. The apartheid government used this tactic, as did the Afrikaner Weerstand Beweging (AWB). I was physically threatened, targeted and harassed by supporters of these politicians for years. When I objected, the politicians would simply say: we don't control these people; how do you know they're even our supporters; you can't prove anything.
  - 6.2. When I was surrounded by protesters in EFF regalia, outside the building where the Zondo commission sits, I had no doubt that they believed that

they were doing what their leadership wanted them to do, just as I knew that when AWB supporters who manhandled me in Pretoria, Boksburg, Brits and elsewhere during 1989 – 1992 believed that they were doing what Eugene Terre'Blanche wanted them to do. When I am mobbed by thousands of EFF supporters on Twitter with nasty insults and threats to my personal safety and that of my family, I know that they think they are making the EFF leadership proud.

- 6.3. The EFF leadership paints journalists as enemies of the people, as politicians themselves, as traitors to the cause, as sell-outs, and part of “stratcom”. These are the things that Julius Malema, Dali Mpofu, Floyd Shivambu and other EFF leaders keep on calling me and others publicly. Many of the EFF supporters are young. They have limited experience of what happened during the 1980s and early 1990s when the apartheid security police indeed had a “strategic communications” project to undermine the liberation movement and leaders like Winnie Mandela and to sow disinformation. When the EFF leadership brands journalists as part of “stratcom” the message that they send is that journalists like me are paid agents of some dark, racist, reactionary force, and that we want to undermine the freedom and dignity of black South Africans. Attacking these “stratcom agents” then becomes an act of liberation and an expression of patriotism.
- 6.4. Ironically, three of the journalists branded by the EFF leadership as stratcom agents - Anton Harber, Thandeka Qubule and I - were in the forefront of exposing the real stratcom agents in the late 1980s and early

1990s. Anton Harber and Thandeka Qubule wrote for the Weekly Mail.

I was the editor of Vrye Weekblad.

7. To the extent that I have not dealt specifically with any allegation concerning me in Mr Malema's affidavit, and where such allegations are inconsistent with my supporting affidavit or this affidavit, those allegations are denied.
8. I confirm again that I align myself with the contents of the complaint and that I support the relief sought by the other complainants.
9. I persist in asking this Court to grant the relief as set out in the Form to which my supporting affidavit is annexed.

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**DEPONENT**

I certify that the deponent:

- (a) has acknowledged that he knows and understands the contents of this declaration; and
- (b) that he has no objection to taking the prescribed oath, that he considers the oath binding on his conscience and has in due form sworn that the contents of this declaration are true and has signed the same.

Before me at ..... on this ..... day of July 2019

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**COMMISSIONER OF OATHS**