



Life Esidimeni Portrait Photographs © Mark Lewis

Life Esidimeni Inquest Inquiry starts today – live stream from 10am

After 5 years since the Life Esidimeni tragedy, an Inquest Inquiry will begin today, 20 July 2021, in the Pretoria High Court. The Inquest, which will be lead by Judge Mmonoa Teffo, will determine if anyone can be held criminally liable for the tragedy in which at least 144 mentally ill patients died.

Section 27 will be representing 44 families that were directly affected by the tragedy and will be giving testimony and evidence. Umunyana Rugege, Section27 Executive Director, said, "This is a fact-finding mission. It is an important and serious process, and we have faith in it to get to the bottom of the cause of the deaths. Causation is a difficult issue in law. Part of seeking justice is about seeing real accountability."

Life Esidimeni Family Committee representative Christine Nxumalo said: "It is all part of closure. What the families want is to hold those responsible accountable, and this is also part of that."

The Inquest Inquiry is an important step to advocate for justice, accountability and better treatment for mental health. We can #NeverForget what happened to the most vulnerable population and ensure it never happens again.

The Inquest Inquiry will be LIVE streamed and is open to the public and press to watch online via these platforms:

- Judiciary RSA youtube channel – Live streaming Inquest: YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/c/JudiciaryRSA>

- Facebook page - [@TheSouthAfricanJudiciary](#)

To read more about what to expect from the Inquest Inquiry, how it will proceed, what families are hoping for, etc. Read the recent articles below:

1. [Daily Maverick article "Closure a step nearer: Long awaited Inquest into Life Esidimeni tragedy to start on 19 July"](#)
2. [Daily Sun article "Life Esidimeni Inquest kicks off 2021"](#)
3. [Section 27 Fact Sheet into the Inquest Inquiry](#)
4. [The Citizen article "Life Esidimeni: New information to be presented following Investigation"](#)



Photo: Mark Lemish/Life Esidimeni Advocacy Project

Life Esidimeni
Never Again

Caswell Mosiane

"I want to know what really happened to my brother. I will find peace when I know the truth of how he died."
- Caswell's sister, Maggie Mosiane.

www.lifeesidimeni.org.za 🔍

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Please follow the Section 27 campaign of #SayTheirName where they will be highlighting the portrait and story of a Life Esidimeni patient who lost their life during the tragedy. [@SECTION27news](#)

Everyday, Section27 will be sharing one portrait from the www.lifeesidimeni.org.za memorial [@LifeEsidimeni](#) along with their personal story to continue reminding us all to advocate for Patients Mental Health Rights.

To read more about the stories behind the 144 Lives lost, the timeline of events and important info around mental health reporting and useful inks, please visit the Life Esidimeni website compiled by SADAG and Section 27 - Click [Here](#).

Life Esidimeni Inquest

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