

1 Boast Street
Eshowe
KwaZulu-Natal
15 May 2015

Information Officer Vidhu Vedalankar
Legal Aid South Africa
29 De Beer Street
Braamfontein

Per telefax: 011 877 2222

Dear Ms Vedalankar

REQUEST FOR ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF RECEIPT OF
CONSENT TO YOUR REQUEST FOR AN EXTENSION
MY REQUEST FOR TWO FURTHER RECORDS

Please acknowledge receipt of my letter telefaxed to you on 4 May 2015 consenting to an extension of time within to respond to my PAIA request in March and requesting two further documents, a copy of which is annexed for easy reference (I've cut the imprecise bit in parentheses at the end).

I ask because after faxing you on the 4th I found the fax machine toner was out, so I couldn't print a transmission report to prove delivery. Unlike now.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'A. Brink', with a stylized, cursive script.

ANTHONY BRINK

Fax: 086 672 0776

Email: arbrink@iafrica.com

1 Boast Street
Eshowe
KwaZulu-Natal
4 May 2015

Information Officer Vidhu Vedalankar
Legal Aid South Africa
29 De Beer Street
Braamfontein

Per telefax: 011 877 2222

Dear Ms Vedalankar

REQUEST FOR RECORDS UNDER PAIA IN MARCH 2015:
CONSENT TO YOUR REQUEST FOR AN EXTENSION
REQUEST FOR TWO FURTHER RECORDS

1. I refer to CSE Thembile Mtati's letter to me of 28 April 2015, in which he requested an extension of time within which to respond to my PAIA request to you of 19 March 2015, delivered on the 31st according to the Post Office tracking system.
2. I immediately emailed my consent under section 26(1)(e) of PAIA.
3. I record here that I consented to an extension of time as an indulgence afforded you, and not for the reason advanced for the request for more time, namely that you were 'on leave'.
4. I don't accept it's the true reason more time has been sought, and it's anyway legally invalid, because:
 - (i) an information officer's absence on leave is not a ground allowed by section 26(1) for extending the time limit within which to decide a PAIA request;
 - (ii) according to LASA's PAIA manual, there are several deputy information officers in your national office who can handle PAIA requests in your absence; and,
 - (iii) purporting to act as a deputy information officer, Mtati dealt with my previous request addressed to you in November 2013, even though it appears you were at your desk (he didn't claim that you were away on leave to justify handling my request instead of you).

5. And you don't need more time to direct Hundermark, Nair and Makokoane to comply with the PAIA requests I addressed to them last year, as urged in my letter to you of 19 March 2015, because it's obvious at a glance from it that they've acted illegally in refusing or obstructing my access to the requested documents.
6. While considering your response to my PAIA request addressed to you in March 2015, in the extra time that I've very generously allowed you, kindly consider also my request for two further documents, generated subsequent to my request. These are:

9. LASA's report to the SAHRC under section 32 of PAIA for 2014/15 (filed in April 2015).

10. CEO Vedalankar's approved leave application in respect of her absence from office in April 2015, alleged by CSE Mtati in his letter to Brink of 28 April 2015.

7. I trust this supplementary request for these additional two documents I've specified won't also be overlooked, in the way Mtati overlooked my supplementary document request addressed to you on 17 October 2013, following my Form A request delivered a week earlier to you on the 1st.
8. It's with this concern in mind that I look forward to your acknowledgement of receipt of this supplementary request for these additional two documents.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'A. Brink', written in a cursive style.

ANTHONY BRINK

FAX JOURNAL REPORT

TIME : 15/05/2015 11:57
 NAME :
 FAX :
 TEL :
 SER.# : E71447J2J259887

NO.	DATE	TIME	FAX NO./NAME	DURATION	PAGE(S)	RESULT	COMMENT
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#002	15/05	08:40	0866308765	01:08	02	OK	TX
#003	15/05	08:58	0865574675	47	03	OK	TX ECM
#004	15/05	09:47	0359072361	27	04	OK	TX ECM
#005	15/05	11:55	0118772222	47	03	OK	TX ECM

CV : COVERPAGE
 POL : POLLING
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 PC : PC-FAX