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**PRESS RELEASE BY THE HONOURABLE MR JUSTICE R J GOLDSTONE,
CHAIRMAN OF THE COMMISSION OF INQUIRY REGARDING THE PREVENTION OF
PUBLIC VIOLENCE AND INTIMIDATION**

1. The Commission's witness protection programme is now in operation.
2. Any person may apply for protection if he is likely to give material evidence to the Commission or if he has given evidence and has reason to believe that his safety or that of a member of his family is threatened as a result of his being a witness or potential witness.
3. Applications for protection must be made in writing on a prescribed form to the Security Director who is Mr Deon Rudman the Executive Director of the National Peace Secretariat in Pretoria. Information and assistance can be obtained from his office in Pretoria at telephone number (012) 320 4640.
4. An applicant for protection will receive it if the Chairman of the Commission is satisfied that he or a member of his family are in need of it. The place of protection will be decided upon by the Security Director in consultation with the Chairman of the Commission and the person or persons requesting protection. A security officer will be appointed to look after the protected person. Any suitable person can be appointed as a security officer, whether a public official or private individual. Such persons will be chosen by the Security Director in consultation with the Chairman and the Commissioner of Police. The identity of the security officer need not be made known to any officer of the South African Police Force.
5. The normal period of protection will be a maximum of three months after the person has completed his or her evidence. However, the Chairman has a discretion to extend the period if in his opinion the person needs further protection.
6. Provision is made for payment of board and lodging, clothing, medical attention and compensation for lost earnings. Complaints by any protected person are immediately to be brought to the attention of the Chairman and the Security Director.

7. It is a criminal offence for any person to furnish information concerning the identity or whereabouts of a protected person without the permission of the Chairman.
8. The Commission would like to emphasize that the places of safety where protected persons will be kept will be carefully chosen with due regard to the facts and circumstances of each case. So, too, the identity of the security officer chosen to ensure the safety of such persons. In particular regard will be had to the person or persons feared by the protected person to be a threat to his or her safety or the safety of a member of his or her family.
9. All arrangements made in pursuance of this witness protection programme will be made in full consultation with the person seeking protection and every possible precaution will be taken to ensure his or her safety.
10. The Commission would also like to draw attention to a recent amendment to the statute which empowers it to appoint pro deo counsel for witnesses where the Commission considers that to be in the interests of its functions.

PRETORIA
26 AUGUST 1992