**DELIVERED BY EMAIL**

**Jessica Bezuidenhout**

**Daily Maverick**

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15 April 2019

Dear Ms Bezuidenhout

**STATE CAPTURE COMMISSION // MR McBRIDE**

1. The above matter and your letter ("**your letter**") addressed to our Marketing Department of even date.
2. Mr Sandile July ("**Mr July**"), a senior director of Werksmans, was briefed by the Ministry of Police in February 2015 to conduct an investigation in relation to, *inter alia*, the illegal rendition of Zimbabwean nationals in 2010 ("**the investigation**"). In late April 2015, Werksmans tabled its comprehensive report relating to the investigation, which investigation included interviews with multiple parties and a consideration of numerous documents.
3. In response to the queries in your letter, we confirm that Mr July, was in charge of the investigation and was assisted by numerous members of his team in conducting the investigation and compiling the report. He has indeed received a notice from the State Capture Commission.
4. Werksmans is, as Mr McBride has correctly acknowledged, a reputable firm which, as you are aware, has been at the forefront of the fight against the scourge of corruption and state capture. This is a role Werksmans will continue to play with passion and vigour.
5. A copy of the report is in the possession of both the Commission and Mr McBride. Its content is directly inconsistent with the inferences which McBride seeks to draw and the assertions he has advanced in relation thereto.
6. Whilst acknowledging the importance of the Commission, it is premature to respond substantively to any evidence at this stage. We will consider Werksmans' position once all testimony which relates to the report has been led and we have had an opportunity to consider it. That said, we emphatically reject any allegations of impropriety directed at Werksmans and/or Mr July.

Yours sincerely

**DAVID HERTZ**

**CHAIRMAN**

Werksmans Inc

*THIS LETTER HAS BEEN ELECTRONICALLY TRANSMITTED WITH NO SIGNATURE.*