

COMMISSION OF INQUIRY INTO STATE CAPTURE
HELD AT
CITY OF JOHANNESBURG OLD COUNCIL CHAMBER
158 CIVIC BOULEVARD, BRAAMFONTEIN

31 AUGUST 2020

DAY 258



Gauteng Transcribers
Recording & Transcriptions

22 Woodlands Drive
Irene Woods, Centurion
TEL: 012 941 0587 FAX: 086 742 7088
MOBILE: 066 513 1757
info@gautengtranscribers.co.za

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TRANSCRIBERS:

B KLINE; Y KLIEM; V FAASEN; D STANIFORTH



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PROCEEDINGS RESUME ON 31 AUGUST 2020

CHAIRPERSON: Good morning Mr Notshe, good morning everybody.

ADV NOTSHE SC: Good morning Chairperson.
Chairperson.

CHAIRPERSON: Are we ready?

ADV NOTSHE SC: We are ready. Chairperson remember last week Ms Thomas, Sandy Thomas appeared under a subpoena and she asked time.

10 **CHAIRPERSON:** A summons?

ADV NOTSHE SC: It was under a summons. She asked time to prepare an affidavit and so that she can testify today and the – you allowed her to – you allowed the adjournment to today and you allowed her to give an opportunity to prepare the summons. And she has prepared the summons and it was filed over the weekend.

CHAIRPERSON: An affidavit?

ADV NOTSHE SC: I am sorry. She prepared an affidavit.

CHAIRPERSON: Ja not a summons.

20 **ADV NOTSHE SC:** Not a summons. And it was filed – it was filed over the weekend.

CHAIRPERSON: Hm.

ADV NOTSHE SC: Chairperson where this all starts it starts from the evidence of Mr Agrizzi. Mr Agrizzi his testimony was to the fact that...

CHAIRPERSON: For what it is worth I do condone the failure to file the affidavit on Friday.

ADV NOTSHE SC: Yes.

CHAIRPERSON: Ja okay.

ADV NOTSHE SC: And – So Mr Agrizzi had referred to – his evidence was to the fact that in the interactions with Ms Mokonyane – Ms Mokonyane she had been – he had been dealing with Ms Thomas and then there was also the affidavit of Ms Gina Peters. And the affidavit of Ms Gina
10 Peters I will refer you to when we deal with the evidence. We will refer to it in the bundle wherein she also states that in her affidavit she dealt with Ms Thomas and then there is also the evidence of Richard Le Roux to the effect that he received instructions from Ms Thomas to do some repairs at the house of Ms Mokonyane. Chair Ms Thomas is here to give evidence can she be sworn in?

CHAIRPERSON: So basically Ms Thomas' evidence relates to BOSASA and the evidence given by Mr Agrizzi and Mr Le Roux as well as the evidence still to be given by
20 Ms G Peters with regard to allegations of a close relationship between BOSASA both Mr Gavin Watson with Ms Nomvula Mokonyane and Mr Agrizzi's evidence that BOSASA did various things for Ms Mokonyane or her family because according to Mr Agrizzi Mr Gavin Watson said Ms Mokonyane was very influential and then needed to look

after her in order for them to as BOSASA to have protection from prosecution or certain investigations by the SIU. So Ms Thomas' evidence will deal with what she knows with regard to any interactions that may have happened between BOSASA, Mr Agrizzi, Mr Gavin Watson and Ms Mokonyane as well as herself. You may administer the oath or affirmation.

REGISTRAR: Please state your full names for the record.

MS THOMAS: Sandra Thomas.

10 **REGISTRAR:** Do you have any objection to taking the prescribed...

CHAIRPERSON: Ah sorry. I suspect the transcribers will not hear you maybe you can remove your mask for now.

MS THOMAS: Oh.

CHAIRPERSON: Just – or move it a little bit so that...

MS THOMAS: I will just do this.

CHAIRPERSON: Ja.

MS THOMAS: My full name is Sandra Thomas.

20 **REGISTRAR:** Do you have any objection to taking the prescribed oath?

MS THOMAS: No I do not.

REGISTRAR: Do you consider the oath to be binding on your conscience?

MS THOMAS: Yes I do.

REGISTRAR: Do you swear that the evidence you will give

will be the truth; the whole truth and nothing else but the truth; if so please raise your right hand and say, so help me God.

MS THOMAS: So help me God.

REGISTRAR: Thank you.

CHAIRPERSON: Okay thank you; you may be seated Ms Thomas. If you do not have any objection you could remove your mask so that we can hear you on the understanding that there is enough social distance but you
10 must tell me if you have a problem.

MS THOMAS: If I find that it is a bit difficult then I will remove it Your Honour.

CHAIRPERSON: Sorry?

MS THOMAS: I am saying if I find that it is a bit difficult then I will remove it.

CHAIRPERSON: Yes I cannot hear you.

MS THOMAS: You cannot hear me?

CHAIRPERSON: Yes.

MS THOMAS: Okay.

20 **CHAIRPERSON**: I think it is better that it..

MS THOMAS: I will just keep it this way.

CHAIRPERSON: Ja that is – ja okay. Alright thank you.
Mr Notshe.

ADV NOTSHE SC: Chair I understand from the legal representatives of Ms Thomas that she wants to say

something before she starts with her evidence.

CHAIRPERSON: Let us get them to be – to place themselves on record first. You may do so from where you are just to place yourself on record.

ADV MANALA: Yes thank you Chairperson. I am Manala ME I am instructed by Madlanga – Mr Madlanga of Madlanga Incorporated.

CHAIRPERSON: Thank you.

ADV MANALA And we together appear for the Ms Thomas.

10 **CHAIRPERSON:** Thank you. Thank you. Ms Thomas you want to say something?

MS THOMAS: Yes good morning Your Honour.

CHAIRPERSON: Yes.

MS THOMAS: And everybody else here. Sir I just wish to apologise for the in – the mistake that happened last week.

CHAIRPERSON: Yes.

MS THOMAS: It was in all Honour a communication mistake and a breakdown there and I do apologise.

CHAIRPERSON: Yes.

20 **MS THOMAS:** It was not an intent for me not to be here.

CHAIRPERSON: Hm.

MS THOMAS: And I – really it was a bit embarrassing though but really, I do apologise humbly so.

CHAIRPERSON: Okay.

MS THOMAS: And I am here now.

CHAIRPERSON: Yes.

MS THOMAS: We can go ahead.

CHAIRPERSON: No I – your apology is accepted. I do accept that you did not intend to be disrespectful

MS THOMAS: No I did not Your Honour.

CHAIRPERSON: Yes okay. Thank you.

ADV NOTSHE SC: Now Ms Thomas you will find in front of you there is a black file. Chairperson I refer to the file which is marked BOSASA Bundle 1. Do you have that in
10 front of you Ms Thomas?

MS THOMAS: Yes I do.

ADV NOTSHE SC: Well do we call you Ms or Mrs Thomas?

MS THOMAS: I am Ms.

ADV NOTSHE SC: Ms Thomas.

MS THOMAS: Yes.

ADV NOTSHE SC: Alright.

CHAIRPERSON: I do not – I do not see on the spine of this file that you have got Mr Agrizzi's statement here as well as Mr Le Roux's statement. Is it in another file that is
20 here or?

ADV NOTSHE SC: The – the excerpt of Mr Agrizzi and Mr Le Roux that referred to her [00:08:18].

CHAIRPERSON: Ja well I accept or the whole statement.

ADV NOTSHE SC: No there is an excerpt which is attached to the – to the summons – the relevant part

attached to the summons.

CHAIRPERSON: Does that – does that excerpt only relate to – only relate to what Mr Agrizzi said about Ms Thomas or does it cover what he said about Ms Mokonyane as well?

ADV NOTSHE SC: No it does cover both.

CHAIRPERSON: It does cover both?

ADV NOTSHE SC: You will see – yes you will see on page 33 Chair where it deals with Ms Mokonyane.

CHAIRPERSON: Oh okay.

10 **ADV NOTSHE SC:** And then...

CHAIRPERSON: And then it covers the supplementary and the reply because there was the first affidavit then there was a supplementary affidavit and there was Mr – Mr Agrizzi's response to Ms Mokonyane's affidavit?

ADV NOTSHE SC: No those are not – those are not included.

CHAIRPERSON: That is not included?

ADV NOTSHE SC: Yes. And...

CHAIRPERSON: Ja in the...

20 **ADV NOTSHE SC:** But what is...

CHAIRPERSON: In the supplementary is it – I think there is something in the supplementary that relates to Ms Mokonyane. I think Mr Agrizzi's story about Ms Mokonyane is contained in his first affidavit, in his supplementary affidavit as well as in his response.

ADV NOTSHE SC: Yes.

CHAIRPERSON: To Ms Mokonyane's affidavit. That is where you get the whole story.

ADV NOTSHE SC: Yes.

CHAIRPERSON: Hm.

ADV NOTSHE SC: The only – the only reason Chair that those are not here in this – in the summons it is because they do not refer to the witness. You will find Chair where on issue – if you were to turn to page 41 – page 41 of
10 Exhibit 27 and then there it starts and page 41 starts the – the evidence of Mr Agrizzi before you. And then...

CHAIRPERSON: Ja.

ADV NOTSHE SC: The relevant part of that evidence is on page 44.

CHAIRPERSON: Ja no that is fine. Let us proceed I would have liked to have the complete version so as to see how it diverges or converges with her evidence. But that is fine let us proceed.

ADV NOTSHE SC: Now Ms Thomas you are on page –
20 there is – if you see the tag – there are tags in this bundle you have been given – there is a tag which is 27.1 – it is called Exhibit 27.1

MS THOMAS: Yes.

ADV NOTSHE SC: And if you there you turn to page 57 – 57.3 that is your affidavit. The numbering we are using we

are using the black numbers.

MS THOMAS: Yes I am. I am with you.

ADV NOTSHE SC: Thank you. That is the – the affidavit.

Now if you – you turn to whilst you are there.

CHAIRPERSON: I am sorry.

ADV NOTSHE SC: Turn to...

CHAIRPERSON: That is whose affidavit?

ADV NOTSHE SC: That is Ms Thomas' affidavit.

CHAIRPERSON: On what page?

10 **ADV NOTSHE SC**: Page 57.3.

CHAIRPERSON: 87?

ADV NOTSHE SC: 57.

CHAIRPERSON: 57?

ADV NOTSHE SC: Yes.

MS THOMAS: Yes. Chair [00:12:08] but it is okay.

CHAIRPERSON: Are you comfortable?

ADV NOTSHE SC: Little bit – what will make it – what will make it comfortable although you are talking, I am asking you questions. You are talking to the Chair.

20 **MS THOMAS**: Okay no problem.

ADV NOTSHE SC: So it is his.

MS THOMAS: I think ja.

ADV NOTSHE SC: Ja if you – if you sit that way.

MS THOMAS: Okay.

ADV NOTSHE SC: It might even – is it alright now?

MS THOMAS: No problem it is just...

CHAIRPERSON: Are you comfortable?

MS THOMAS: The chair is a bit uncomfortable but I will...

CHAIRPERSON: Wobbly?

MS THOMAS: I will make it – not wobbly it is – I would like to move it a bit but...

CHAIRPERSON: Ja move it a bit if that will make you comfortable.

MS THOMAS: It is just heavy.

10 **ADV NOTSHE SC**: It is a funny chair Ms Thomas. It is stuck. It is stuck.

MS THOMAS: Ja kind of.

ADV NOTSHE SC: In order to – in order to move it a bit kick – sit on it and then like kick or push it.

MS THOMAS: Okay I think this is better. It is lower but it is fine.

CHAIRPERSON: It is low but it is fine?

MS THOMAS: Yes, yes it is.

CHAIRPERSON: Oh okay.

20 **MS THOMAS**: I will just lift up the file to see.

CHAIRPERSON: Oh. I wonder whether anything can be done. Okay alright let us continue.

MS THOMAS: We can proceed it is not a problem.

CHAIRPERSON: Hm. Okay alright.

ADV NOTSHE SC: Now turn to page 57.25. There in that

page 57.25?

MS THOMAS: 57.5?

ADV NOTSHE SC: Ja. 57.25. Point 25 ja. Bearing in mind we using the black numbering.

MS THOMAS: This is my affidavit.

ADV NOTSHE SC: In your affidavit yes. At the top.

MS THOMAS: I am there.

ADV NOTSHE SC: Left hand top – left hand top.

MS THOMAS: Point 25 is the last page?

10 **ADV NOTSHE SC:** Yes the last page. There is above the word deponent there is a signature there, is that your signature?

MS THOMAS: That is my signature yes.

ADV NOTSHE SC: No this document starting from 57.3 to 27.25.

MS THOMAS: Yes.

ADV NOTSHE SC: Is that your affidavit, you confirm?

MS THOMAS: This is my affidavit yes.

ADV NOTSHE SC: Now if we then go back to 57.3.

20 **MS THOMAS:** 57.?

ADV NOTSHE SC: Point 3 of the affidavit. In the beginning of your affidavit.

MS THOMAS: Yes. I am there now.

ADV NOTSHE SC: Now your affidavit you begin by giving a background of...

CHAIRPERSON: Before that do you want me to admit this affidavit Mr Notshe?

ADV NOTSHE SC: Yes Chair can this be admitted?

MS THOMAS: You confirm that this is your affidavit?

MS THOMAS: This is my affidavit Your Honour.

CHAIRPERSON: Yes and you confirm that the contents of the affidavit are to the best of your knowledge and belief true and correct?

MS THOMAS: Yes I do Sir.

10 **CHAIRPERSON:** Okay. What exhibit number should it be?

ADV NOTSHE SC: It is T27.1.

CHAIRPERSON: Well is it T27?

ADV NOTSHE SC: Yes. T27.1. Not T27 is the summons.

CHAIRPERSON: I think that the spine should indicate exactly what it is. It should not just says Coetzee, Thomas because I take that to be their affidavits. So – but you say that 27 is the summons. I think it must make it clear what it is that one will find inside. So – oh okay. Ms Sandra Thomas' affidavit is admitted and will be marked as Exhibit

20 27.1.

ADV NOTSHE SC: Yes.

CHAIRPERSON: Yes.

ADV NOTSHE SC: Now just before we deal in details with your affidavit. Ms Thomas where do you work now?

MS THOMAS: I am now based at Luthuli House in – yes.

ADV NOTSHE SC: Is that the ANC headquarters?

MS THOMAS: ANC head office. Ja.

ADV NOTSHE SC: I see. And are you still the personal secretary – assistant of Ms Mokonyane?

MS THOMAS: Yes I am.

CHAIRPERSON: So are you employed by the ANC now?

MS THOMAS: Yes I am Sir – Your Honour.

CHAIRPERSON: Okay.

ADV NOTSHE SC: And I see that you have got the same
10 lawyers as Ms Mokonyane?

MS THOMAS: Yes.

ADV NOTSHE SC: Is she paying for you for the services as well?

MS THOMAS: No we have not come to discuss myself and my attorneys on what my fees would be because all of this was just a bit of a rush. So we will get to that when we are done here today hopefully.

ADV NOTSHE SC: Well I do not think it can be rushed – could be rushed because according to your statement you
20 were with these attorneys since 2019?

MS THOMAS: Yes. Yes.

ADV NOTSHE SC: So since 2019 you have not made any payment arrangements with them?

MS THOMAS: We have – we need to finalise the total amount after today.

ADV NOTSHE SC: Who is paying for you – who is paying for them?

MS THOMAS: Well I have not paid them as yet.

ADV NOTSHE SC: Come again.

MS THOMAS: I have not paid them anything as yet.

ADV NOTSHE SC: Who is going to pay them do you know?

MS THOMAS: I am going to pay them.

ADV NOTSHE SC: Yes. Now in your affidavit you give a background of when you started with Ms Mokonyane can
10 you confirm that when did you start working for her?

MS THOMAS: I started in the Department of Safety around 1999. I was employed as an administrative secretary who ultimately is responsible for like running the office kind of – like some – not an office manager but ja.

ADV NOTSHE SC: And then for Ms Mokonyane did you start working for her?

MS THOMAS: Directly?

ADV NOTSHE SC: Yes.

MS THOMAS: At the time that was in the office – in the
20 private office.

ADV NOTSHE SC: Of Ms Mokonyane?

MS THOMAS: Yes.

ADV NOTSHE SC: I see. And then did you continue with her when she became Premier?

MS THOMAS: Yes.

ADV NOTSHE SC: How did that happen?

MS THOMAS: During the period in – at the Department of Safety the PA she did not pitch up for work and unfortunately or should I say fortunately either way – fortunately I was there and I occupied her seat not knowing you know the formalities about being a PA and the protocols of safety and the police. So I was there and I filled the seat and I had to learn very quickly because she just did not come back. I had to learn on my feet so it is
10 hitting the road running. I learnt and I think I executed my duties rather well because I then moved with her to the Department of Housing.

ADV NOTSHE SC: Were you not employed by the Department of...

CHAIRPERSON: Ah sorry. You might have to ...

MS THOMAS: I might have to.

CHAIRPERSON: Shift it even more.

MS THOMAS: Why do I not just take it off.

CHAIRPERSON: Because I – ja Okay, okay alright.
20 Thank you.

MS THOMAS: Let me just.

CHAIRPERSON: Because I am – I am missing somewhere just to speak ja.

MS THOMAS: It kind of...

CHAIRPERSON: Ja so..

MS THOMAS: No Your Honour it is fine now.

CHAIRPERSON: And I want to hear everything you are saying.

MS THOMAS: Okay no my apologies.

CHAIRPERSON: That is much better.

MS THOMAS: Yes Mr Notshe.

CHAIRPERSON: Yes Mr Notshe.

ADV NOTSHE SC: So you – you – were you not employed by the Department of Safety and Security?

10 **MS THOMAS**: I was employed by the Department of Safety and it had many names – Community Liaison.

ADV NOTSHE SC: Yes.

MS THOMAS: And it was on a temporary basis in the beginning.

ADV NOTSHE SC: And then the – how do you then move to Department of Housing when Ms Mokonyane moved?

MS THOMAS: Look that is the choice of the member of the executive as to who would accompany them to the following departments. That choices are theirs. But they
20 could even leave you or they could take whoever is at the department. It is entirely up to them.

ADV NOTSHE SC: I see. And then you – you then moved with her when she became the Premier?

MS THOMAS: Yes I did.

ADV NOTSHE SC: And then when she became the Minister

of Water Affairs you moved with her again?

MS THOMAS: Yes I did.

ADV NOTSHE SC: So basically, you have been with her for a number of years – for a long time?

MS THOMAS: Twenty years to be exact.

CHAIRPERSON: From 2002?

MS THOMAS: 2000 – 1999 to...

CHAIRPERSON: Oh from 1999?

MS THOMAS: Yes Sir to date.

10 **CHAIRPERSON**: Yes so that is like what 21 years?

MS THOMAS: Yes.

CHAIRPERSON: Ja that is a long time.

MS THOMAS: Yes it is.

ADV NOTSHE SC: A long time.

CHAIRPERSON: It means she must be very happy with you?

MS THOMAS: I – I would hope so.

CHAIRPERSON: And it means you are very happy with her?

20 **MS THOMAS**: Yes we do hard.

CHAIRPERSON: Ja.

MS THOMAS: And if you have the energy.

CHAIRPERSON: Okay.

MS THOMAS: You must always pre-empt your Ministers or your principals.

ADV NOTSHE SC: I understand. And I understand from your affidavit you have become almost part of the family?

MS THOMAS: Yes – yes it is different when you – when you working with I would not to be gender based but working with a female Minister they – they have – they are Ministers in their capacities but they are also women and they are also mothers and some of the tasks they cannot fulfil. So you know when they are in for example I would just say if they are in the lagotlas for example their phones
10 are off. If they are in the cabinet meetings their phones are off. Any meeting their phones are off. So if there is anything happening if they cannot reach the spouse, they would contact me and I would obviously find a way to either speak to the spouse or either speak to her. But if I know where she is I know that it is – I would know if she is in a cabinet meeting clearly, I would not be able to relay the message. If she does get the message it will only be during the lunch period you know. But by then it would be possibly too late. It depends on the kind of emergency.
20 So I would obviously contact the spouse the late Mr Mokonyane that would be my first point of contact.

ADV NOTSHE SC: So from her – from the – from what you are saying and from the affidavit you dealt with some other things which are outside your official duties?

MS THOMAS: Yes and this is what I am saying that I am

coming back to the issue of you know when you work with female Ministers they are also mothers and they are also wives. So you – you kind of fill the gap and you do things. So it – it is – everybody – well let me put it like this. Every PA he or she may have a different role because we do not just come in women form – there are men PA's as well. So you fill in the gap where you have to and you try to do the best you can. Because obviously it is just the dynamics of the office. You are not bound to your role and
10 responsibilities but it is then again how you work with your Principle.

ADV NOTSHE SC: And I suppose in those situations you even visit the private home of the Minister?

MS THOMAS: Not, not – no. Look not often.

ADV NOTSHE SC: But you do?

MS THOMAS: Not really because I am not the kind of person that would just go. I do have a line. I would go as and when requested to.

ADV NOTSHE SC: And you...

20 **MS THOMAS:** Not just on my own.

ADV NOTSHE SC: And you confirm that you did visit Ms Mokonyane's home now and again?

MS THOMAS: Yes. Yes on – when I have to accompany somebody like the driver I would take something home or when there is files that needs to go. I would accompany

the driver. Just to brief on what we have and so on.

ADV NOTSHE SC: I mean from your side...

CHAIRPERSON: Is that – I am sorry are you talking about her driver?

MS THOMAS: It comes – the department driver. We do – in the private office whether it is the MEC or the Ministry there is a private office driver.

CHAIRPERSON: Oh not necessarily.

MS THOMAS: Driver/messenger.

10 **CHAIRPERSON:** Ja okay. Alright.

MS THOMAS: Ja.

ADV NOTSHE SC: And you – in your summons.

MS THOMAS: Yes.

ADV NOTSHE SC: And I am sure – I am sure you were following the proceedings where the name of Ms Mokonyane was mentioned and her relationship with Mr – the late Mr Gavin Watson was mentioned?

MS THOMAS: Well not much but here and there.

20 **ADV NOTSHE SC:** Do you know – do you know Mr Gavin Watson?

MS THOMAS: I knew Mr Watson telephonically for a very long time.

ADV NOTSHE SC: You know the relationship between her and Ms Mokonyane?

MS THOMAS: I – I do not know exactly the – I know that

he is a family friend but I knew him by talking to him on the phone. In fact yet the funny part is that you know when you talk to somebody for quite some time you try and then put a face to the name so you Google and then you see okay this is the person. So that was my first point that I decided to let me Google this man and see who am I talking to.

CHAIRPERSON: Hm.

ADV NOTSHE SC: And – but you never saw the – saw him the face besides Google face?

10 **MS THOMAS:** No. I think once. Once at the son's funeral he came to sympathise.

CHAIRPERSON: Hm.

MS THOMAS: Yes.

ADV NOTSHE SC: Did you also – of course you also attended the funeral?

MS THOMAS: It was during the run-up you know during the period before the funeral he just came to sympathise and that is when I – I actually met him

CHAIRPERSON: Hm.

20 **ADV NOTSHE SC:** I see.

CHAIRPERSON: How long ago was that if you are able to remember?

MS THOMAS: She was still – she was in – she was a Premier at the time Your Honour.

CHAIRPERSON: Okay. So that was before 2014?

MS THOMAS: Ja.

CHAIRPERSON: Ja that is between 2009 and 2014 I think.

MS THOMAS: Ja.

CHAIRPERSON: Because that is when I think she was the Premier.

MS THOMAS: I am sorry you know this – this whole Covid has just messed up one's date and sense of time.

CHAIRPERSON: Sorry?

MS THOMAS: I am saying this whole Covid thing just
10 messed up your date and sense of time so ja.

CHAIRPERSON: Ja.

ADV NOTSHE SC: And Mr Agrizzi, do you know him?

MS THOMAS: I have spoken to him not often but I have seen him too during that very same period. In fact I am – if I am not sure they may have come to – I do not know together to sympathise but something like that ja.

ADV NOTSHE SC: What did you speak to Mr Agrizzi about?

CHAIRPERSON: I am sorry before that. Do you – do you
20 say that you saw Mr Agrizzi at the Mokonyane home during the period leading to the funeral?

MS THOMAS: It could be yes Sir.

CHAIRPERSON: Yes.

MS THOMAS: I am not too sure but – look it has been quite some time so...

CHAIRPERSON: Yes, yes. Is your recollection that you saw him also only once in the 21 years or so that you – well maybe not 21 in – over 15 years – 16 years – 17 years that you were working for Ms Mokonyane?

MS THOMAS: I am not sure but that is the one that I can definitely confirm.

CHAIRPERSON: That you can remember.

MS THOMAS: But I will come back.

CHAIRPERSON: Yes.

10 **MS THOMAS:** You know Your Honour because I will – it will come back to me.

CHAIRPERSON: It will come back okay, no that is fine.

ADV NOTSHE SC: And you have just told the commission that you spoke to Mr Agrizzi on the phone. You did speak to him on the phone?

MS THOMAS: Once or twice but most of my communication was with Mr Watson.

ADV NOTSHE SC: I see. What did you speak with Mr Agrizzi about?

20 **MS THOMAS:** Well he would call. At one stage he called we did not go into details as to what it was. You know he called and I said to him that – I think he heard – must have heard that I am a bit drowsy and he called. I said to him look I am not work I am going to send you the number of my colleague and you can speak to her. And he wanted to

know like why, what is happening? And I was – just said to him that I am off sick. And – and that was it. So he – I referred him to my colleague – my late colleague to speak to because I was no position to talk to him at all.

ADV NOTSHE SC: Is that – is that the only time you spoke to him?

MS THOMAS: He may have called once before then but as I am saying you know it will come back. It will come back.

ADV NOTSHE SC: I understand. I understand. Tell me
10 the birthdays – did you give him your birthday at some stage?

MS THOMAS: This is the funny thing. Mr Watson like any other – well not any other person but you know what happens Your Honour is people would call and it is not just necessarily people but it is people that we liaise with and amongst the Ministers we have dates of whose birthdays they are especially those that she is quite close to. So you send – my duty would be I would obviously call the PA and say listen you know what is your Principal's preferred
20 flowers, chocolates what do you think? Or what perfume does your Principle like. Those kinds of things.

So outside of the work relations there is also other people that would call and say you know I want to get your boss something but what do you think I should get? Do you think I should get flowers? If I say flowers. Yes, these are

the colours she prefers. So the person has already decided, you know. Some of them have already decided that they are going to buy flowers.

They just want to know from me, what does she prefer because it is no secret that she suffers from very bad asthma and sinus.

So some of the flowers... and so do I... some of the flowers like your lilies, for example, they give off that terrible pollens. Man, you in a room and you just smell lilies. So it
10 messes me up.

So the same thing with her. So I would just say: Look, do not give lilies. If you want to get some flowers or whatever roses, these are the colours that you do.

And if somebody decides that they want to get a perfume, I will correct them and say this is what you do. This is the preferable choice if is not... it is okay with you.

Because I do not quite know what price they are but I would say this is the perfume of your choice... of choice. And if they want to do something else it is up to them.

20 So in the years that we have been working together and it happened quite funny because we had a tea-lady which I was very close to and one day I just said to her: Hey, it is my birthday.

You know, come with me and let us go and buy a carrot cake. In the building we had a canteen. And it was funny

because in the mornings we could stop there religiously and buy carrot cake before the boss arrives and we would have carrot cake.

But on this day, I said to her: You know what, let us go and buy cake and see if we can get something else besides carrot cake because it is my birthday. And she used to be with the MEC at the time, the former Minister from the Department of Agriculture.

So she then said: Oh... I will put it the way she said put
10 it: Oh, Khandi, you and the minister, you share a birthday date, month. I am like, really? And she then explained to me that no the minister is on... a day after mine.

So that was... it was funny. It is... I suppose it is how it is supposed to have been. We share... that is how I discovered that we share.

CHAIRPERSON: You are the same star?

MS THOMAS: Yes, we are. [laughs]

CHAIRPERSON: [laughs]

ADV NOTSHE SC: Sorry, perhaps I did not come out
20 clearly.

MS THOMAS: Sorry?

ADV NOTSHE SC: Perhaps I did not come out clearly in my question.

MS THOMAS: Yes?

ADV NOTSHE SC: Mr Agrizzi - how did he come to know

about your birthday?

MS THOMAS: Oh, I would... it was probably Mr Watson because Mr Watson knew when my birthday was and he would call. He would call either on my birthday or the day after my birthday but somewhere in that period because... and he would call and he would say, “What do you think? I want to do flowers but what do you think? Can you recommend somebody?”

So at time I would recommend somebody that normally
10 does the flowers in her home. And say, “Go speak to this lady because she knows what she wants.”

And that would be it. And I think maybe through their discussions and obviously talks and so, he then discovered that it was my birthday.

We share a birthday in, you know, the same week. And it is with that then they that... he would often call me or surprise me with something.

More often call me or send me a message and a happy birthday and things like that. In the latter years, it was just
20 surprises, you know. Not necessarily a conversation but a surprise.

ADV NOTSHE SC: So you do confirm in that over years, you and the minister were receiving birthday present and ...[intervenues]

MS THOMAS: Not all.

ADV NOTSHE SC: ...from Mr Watson?

MS THOMAS: Mr Watson, yes.

ADV NOTSHE SC: Including Mr Agrizzi?

MS THOMAS: Well, probably. I do not know how they work in that office. So.

CHAIRPERSON: I am sorry. Just repeat that.

MS THOMAS: I say probably. I do not know how they work in their office.

CHAIRPERSON: Yes, yes.

10 **MS THOMAS:** I have no idea.

ADV NOTSHE SC: I see.

MS THOMAS: But it is like I am saying it is not all the time.

CHAIRPERSON: Let us say that by... Mr Agrizzi left BOSASA I think in 2016 or 2017. That would mean that he would have had, by that time been PA to Ms Mokonyane for about 17 year or about.

MS THOMAS: Yes.

CHAIRPERSON: Ja.

MS THOMAS: Ja.

20 **CHAIRPERSON:** Out of 17 years, what would be your estimate of how many of those years Mr Gavin Watson might have sent presents to you and miss...[intervenes]

MS THOMAS: To myself?

CHAIRPERSON: Ja, say to yourself.

MS THOMAS: Let me say to myself.

CHAIRPERSON: Ja.

MS THOMAS: Because of... I mean, at times, I would not even know if he sent her or it would be that odd times that he would call me.

CHAIRPERSON: Yes. And so ...[intervenes]

MS THOMAS: But to myself, not very often. It was not a yearly thing. It would come as a surprise.

CHAIRPERSON: Yes.

MS THOMAS: Not... it is not all the time.

10 **CHAIRPERSON:** Ja. About five times, ten times? What would you say?

MS THOMAS: Maybe even less, Your Honour.

CHAIRPERSON: Maybe even less?

MS THOMAS: Yes.

CHAIRPERSON: Yes, okay. And as far as presents for Ms Mokonyane, out of the 17 years what would you say?

MS THOMAS: I would not... it would be that ...[intervenes]

CHAIRPERSON: Those that you saw.

20 **MS THOMAS:** ...one odd call that he would ask me: What do you think?

CHAIRPERSON: Yes.

MS THOMAS: What do you think? Because we have no exhausted... maybe I bought flowers. Let me surprise her with something different. What do you think? Sometimes I would not know.

CHAIRPERSON: Yes.

MS THOMAS: I would say to him: You know what Mr Watson, let me think about it. And I, obviously, maybe you should get because you become block down but he would then also remind me. So I do not know what he would send. I would not... it would not come through me. It would obviously go directly to him. If he chooses flowers, if he chooses to send something else, I would not know and I would know if it has actually been sent.

10 **CHAIRPERSON:** Oh, is the position that you would get calls from Mr Gavin Watson ...[intervenes]

MS THOMAS: I did, yes.

CHAIRPERSON: ...about your birthday as well as about Mr Mokonyane's birthday present? But the discussion, for example, about Mr Mokonyane's birthday present what you would suggest he should buy for her, would not necessarily mean you would see if it was sent.

MS THOMAS: Exactly Your Honour.

CHAIRPERSON: It might just be a discussion
20 ...[intervenes]

MS THOMAS: It is a discussion and I would not ...[intervenes]

CHAIRPERSON: ...but what he ultimately bought, you might not see?

MS THOMAS: I would not know. I would not even know if it

got there because I am not there.

CHAIRPERSON: Okay.

MS THOMAS: And from twenty... the latter part, we were in Cape Town most of the times. So whether things actually arrived or not, we do not know.

CHAIRPERSON: Okay.

ADV NOTSHE SC: And you would wish the minister a birthday, a good birthday on her birthday?

MS THOMAS: Me?

10 **ADV NOTSHE SC:** Yes, you.

MS THOMAS: Obviously. I would arrange flowers from... we would put together in our office and we buy cake and flowers and cool drinks and balloons and we were... the private office staff, we would have something depending... it does not matter where we are.

ADV NOTSHE SC: And I am sure after the birthday day celebrations, you would also tell her that Mr Gavin Watson did... want to send you something. Did you receive it?

20 **MS THOMAS:** No, no, no. Look, I am... those are surprises. I do not... cannot ruin a surprise.

ADV NOTSHE SC: No, I mean after the surprise, after the...

MS THOMAS: No, I should... I would... after... you know... I am sorry, Your Honour but sometimes you are so busy, you actually forget.

So after some time, I would maybe ask her or maybe

not. It does not... if she says, you know, this is what I have received from X, Y, Z or this is what I have. It is not necessarily from who, I would know but whether he has actually bought it or sent it, I would not know.

ADV NOTSHE SC: I understand. And then the... do you know Mr Gavin... sorry, Mr Agrizzi's PA, Gina Pieters?

MS THOMAS: Okay, I discovered her name actually the other day when I received the notice that she was going to testify. I spoke to her once. And that was the time when Mr
10 Agrizzi called and I said to him that I am at... I am actually in...

He needs to speak to my colleague. And when I... then I got a call from her, wanting to know my home address. And in fact, she was more: Where should I send it? So I said: No, send it home. And I gave her my home address and that was it.

ADV NOTSHE SC: Is that the only time that you spoke to her?

MS THOMAS: Yes, to my recollection. Yes. Because I did
20 not... I honestly did not even know her name until I received the note.

ADV NOTSHE SC: You saw her affidavit?

MS THOMAS: Yes, I did.

ADV NOTSHE SC: And you saw that she refers to more than one present.

MS THOMAS: I saw that and I can count for the get-well gift for sure.

ADV NOTSHE SC: Okay let us start with the get-well. Turn to page 85. Page 85, Chair of the bundle.

CHAIRPERSON: [No audible reply]

ADV NOTSHE SC: This is an email from Gina Pieters to Dube and other people. And here she says, you must arrange a ladies hamper to be delivered to Ms Sandy Thomas and then she gives the address. Is this the get-well
10 you refer to?

MS THOMAS: Yes, it is. Yes, it is.

ADV NOTSHE SC: It was in 2014?

MS THOMAS: Ja.

ADV NOTSHE SC: I see. Now if you turn to page 83. Now in June 2015, she is asking people to assist with two hampers and then she gives the address of Mr Nomvula at 105 Blouberg Street, Noordheuwel. And I think this is the address of Ms Mokonyane. Do you confirm?

MS THOMAS: [No audible reply]

20 **ADV NOTSHE SC:** Page 83.

MS THOMAS: I am just going to the next... just a second.

ADV NOTSHE SC: Sorry, Ms Thomas.

MS THOMAS: There is an email here.

ADV NOTSHE SC: Yes?

MS THOMAS: I see that the email goes to a Dudu Dube.

ADV NOTSHE SC: Yes.

MS THOMAS: Is that the one?

ADV NOTSHE SC: Yes, yes.

MS THOMAS: Okay.

ADV NOTSHE SC: And if you... it says: Hi, all... I am reading the email:

“Please can someone assist me with two ladies’ hampers to the value of R 1 500,00 each as follows: Ms Nomvula, 105 Blouberg Street.”

10 You confirm that is Ms Mokonyane’s home address?

MS THOMAS: Yes, that is her home address.

ADV NOTSHE SC: And then to Sandy Thomas. 1 Customer Street.

MS THOMAS: That is my address.

CHAIRPERSON: You forgot Mr Notshe... did you forget and read the address?

ADV NOTSHE SC: Oh, I beg your pardon. I beg your pardon, Chair. And then there is the address Sandy Thomas and then there is an address there.

20 **MS THOMAS:** Yes.

ADV NOTSHE SC: And it says:

“Please do not make any reference to BOSASA and the contact number for both parcels is Sandy Thomas.”

And then it gives a number, a cell number.

MS THOMAS: Yes, I see that.

ADV NOTSHE SC: Is your cell number?

MS THOMAS: Yes, I can confirm that this is my cell number.

ADV NOTSHE SC: Now over the page ...[intervenes]

CHAIRPERSON: I am sorry. That is an email dated 29 June 2015.

ADV NOTSHE SC: Yes.

MS THOMAS: Yes.

10 **CHAIRPERSON:** Sent by Ms Gina Pieters at eight minutes past eleven to Dudu Dube, Innocence, Jamarina and Alpha Hand. Is that right?

MS THOMAS: H'm.

CHAIRPERSON: And the subject is: Two times urgent ladies hampers. Confidential. Yes, continue.

ADV NOTSHE SC: And then over the page on page 82, we see there an email. This is from Kombelo to Gina Pieters. The same date and it is 11:57. And it says:

“Re: Two urgent ladies hampers. Confidential.

20 Hi, Gina. I processed the orders as requested. I am just waiting delivery confirmation from the supplier. Kind regards.”

And then... do you see that?

MS THOMAS: Yes, I see that.

ADV NOTSHE SC: Now, we then go over the page to page

81. And then, if you start at the bottom. I always find emails funny to read. Will you start at the bottom when you read them? Look at page 81.

MS THOMAS: [No audible reply]

ADV NOTSHE SC: Are you there?

MS THOMAS: Just give me the top part where it says... because I am actually using my own file here.

ADV NOTSHE SC: Oh.

MS THOMAS: H'm-uh.

10 **ADV NOTSHE SC**: It is an email... in the beginning it is an email from Kombelo ...[intervenes]

CHAIRPERSON: Why you are not using...?

MS THOMAS: This one and mine because I put it... I put my own file together here.

CHAIRPERSON: I think you ...[intervenes]

MS THOMAS: Let me go to the page. What did you say?

CHAIRPERSON: Ja, because there will be confusion.

ADV NOTSHE SC: Ja, page 81.

MS THOMAS: 81?

20 **ADV NOTSHE SC**: Yes.

CHAIRPERSON: Ja, on the top left-hand corner. The black numbers.

MS THOMAS: Let me go there.

ADV NOTSHE SC: Look, you will have all the time. If you want you will check something in your file. You have the

time.

MS THOMAS: Ja, I will do that. Just a second. I am just going there.

ADV NOTSHE SC: Page 81.

CHAIRPERSON: That is under tab number 29.

MS THOMAS: Ja. Okay I see the email.

CHAIRPERSON: Okay.

ADV NOTSHE SC: Look at the bottom. We start at the bottom. It is from Kombelo, the one... the name we saw on
10 the previous page. It says:

“Hi, Gina. I just want to let you know that this order will be delivered tomorrow. I will keep you posted. Kind regards.”

Do you...[intervenes]

MS THOMAS: Yes, I see that. Yes.

ADV NOTSHE SC: And then Gina responds and say:

“Thank you, dearie.”

And then at the top, at the top of that page. Oh, no. On the 1st of July, Kombelo sends and email to Gina and says:

20 “Good morning, Gina. The hampers were made yesterday in the afternoon. We delivery hamper deliveries. We made yesterday afternoon.”

Do you see that?

MS THOMAS: Okay I see that too, yes.

ADV NOTSHE SC: Did you not receive these hamper

deliveries?

MS THOMAS: Well, be it on Wednesday, I was obviously at work. So. You know, I am going to say in all honesty. When I receive Ms Gina's affidavit.

I have an 83-year-old mother. An 83-year-old mother and I asked her: Right, when did we get... were you... did you receive any hampers? Did you...?

I was at work. It was a Wednesday. I was at work. So I all honesty, my recollection of receiving a hamper, I did not
10 receive that. I was not there. I was at work. I did not come home and find a hamper.

ADV NOTSHE SC: So are you saying to the Commission that as you are sitting there today, you are saying you never received the hamper?

MS THOMAS: No, I was at work on that particular day. So even if I... our... I at this point, I cannot say to you whether I was in Cape Town or whether I was in Pretoria.

ADV NOTSHE SC: I understand.

MS THOMAS: Right. But I did not sign for it. So I cannot
20 recall receiving a particular hamper on a Wednesday, the 1st of July. It is a weekday.

ADV NOTSHE SC: And you confirm this is around your birthday?

MS THOMAS: My birthday is on the 26th of June.

ADV NOTSHE SC: Yes. So it is not far from your birthday.

MS THOMAS: No, it is not far from my birthday.

ADV NOTSHE SC: I see. And when you saw this affidavit of Gina Pieters...[intervenes]

MS THOMAS: Yes?

ADV NOTSHE SC: ...and she says there were these hampers delivered and you say you cannot recall of whether you received... it was received by your family or not. You must have seen that there is also reference to Ms Mokonyane, delivered to Ms Mokonyane's home.

10 **MS THOMAS**: I saw that reference because it was sent to both ladies.

ADV NOTSHE SC: Yes. Did you ask her now: Hey, when did you ever receive this?

MS THOMAS: No, I did not. I did not ask.

ADV NOTSHE SC: Now I was looking ...[intervenes]

MS THOMAS: Because ...[intervenes]

ADV NOTSHE SC: ...in your affidavit...[intervenes]

20 **MS THOMAS**: Normally, Wednesdays it is either a Cabinet meeting or a sub-committee meeting and that would be Wednesdays. So I can say, I do not know, were we in Cape Town, were we in Pretoria during this period because I... when I look at it we were at the Department of Water.

So I cannot confirm whether she has received it. I have not even asked her even when I received this. Look, I consider this affidavit of Ms Pieters to be more related to me

because that is what the emails said that I can question her and so forth and so forth.

So if Ms Mokonyane had received something, I cannot confirm on behalf on behalf of anybody. I do not think it is fair that I should confirm that she has received. She may not even have received it.

ADV NOTSHE SC: I see. I understand.

MS THOMAS: But again, and I want to ...[intervenes]

CHAIRPERSON: Are you ...[intervenes]

10 **MS THOMAS:** Your Honour?

ADV NOTSHE SC: ...you are only required to tell us what you know.

MS THOMAS: Yes.

CHAIRPERSON: If you do not know whether she received it, you say you do not know.

MS THOMAS: Yes. Yes, Your Honour.

CHAIRPERSON: If you do know you say: Yes, she did.

MS THOMAS: No problem. Thank you.

20 **ADV NOTSHE SC:** And I was... as I was reading your affidavit, I was reading with a bated breath that you would say you received yours or did not receive it. You confirm that in your affidavit, you do not deny receiving.

MS THOMAS: No.

ADV NOTSHE SC: Yes.

MS THOMAS: I do not deny receiving the flowers.

ADV NOTSHE SC: No, this... the hamper.

MS THOMAS: Look, there may have been. Like I said and I indicated earlier. There may have been once or twice but as I indicated that it will come back. It will come back. I can confirm the flowers, the get-well flowers. And I know that maybe at some point but I cannot confirm whether it was that particular day or whether it was any other time.

ADV NOTSHE SC: And all I am saying now is you... in your affidavit ...[intervenes]

10 **MS THOMAS:** Yes?

ADV NOTSHE SC: ...you must have forgotten to deny that you have received the hamper.

MS THOMAS: No, I did not deny. I am not denying.

ADV NOTSHE SC: Oh, I see.

MS THOMAS: I am saying I may have received.

CHAIRPERSON: She says ...[intervenes]

MS THOMAS: I received ...[intervenes]

CHAIRPERSON: ...she is not sure whether ...[intervenes]

MS THOMAS: It was on that ...[intervenes]

20 **CHAIRPERSON:** ...she received this particular one.

MS THOMAS: Yes.

CHAIRPERSON: And I think she says she may have received a hamper at some stage or another ...[intervenes]

MS THOMAS: Yes, Your Honour.

CHAIRPERSON: ...and as to when that will be, maybe that

will come back to her.

ADV NOTSHE SC: Ja, I understand.

MS THOMAS: I am not denying. I just... it may not be that time. It maybe another time.

CHAIRPERSON: Yes. H'm.

ADV NOTSHE SC: And can you confirm that in your affidavit ...[intervenes]

MS THOMAS: Yes?

ADV NOTSHE SC: ...you do not say you do not you do not
10 remember receiving the hamper?

MS THOMAS: Yes, I do know. I can say I know. I can just not say to you that is it on that particular day because it may have been any other time but not that particular day because like I am saying that date is Wednesdays, it is at work. So it could have been any other time.

ADV NOTSHE SC: I see. And you are telling the Commission that you dealt with Mr Agrizzi one?

MS THOMAS: Once or twice. Ja, once or twice. Not necessarily that I would call him to pick up whatever or
20 whatever. No. My communication was mostly with Mr Watson. And how they did their communication in their office, I would not know.

ADV NOTSHE SC: And if you turn to page 85.

MS THOMAS: Of my affidavit?

ADV NOTSHE SC: Ja, of the page 85 of the bundle.

MS THOMAS: Yes?

ADV NOTSHE SC: On page 85?

MS THOMAS: Page 25?

ADV NOTSHE SC: Page 85.

MS THOMAS: 85?

ADV NOTSHE SC: Sorry, 85. Ja.

MS THOMAS: I am looking at 85.

ADV NOTSHE SC: Yes. You confirm you receiving the get-well flowers?

10 **MS THOMAS:** Yes, I did.

ADV NOTSHE SC: The get-well hamper.

MS THOMAS: It was flowers or something like that. Whether it was flowers, whether it was a hamper, I do not know but I do know that when I got home there was a little card.

ADV NOTSHE SC: I see. And the card reads:

“Dear, Sandy. Wishing you a speedy recovery.”

MS THOMAS: Yes, it was... yes, it was ...[intervenes]

ADV NOTSHE SC: And everything of the best.

20 **MS THOMAS:** Yes.

ADV NOTSHE SC: God Bless.

MS THOMAS: Yes, it was.

ADV NOTSHE SC: Angelo Agrizzi.

MS THOMAS: Yes, it was.

ADV NOTSHE SC: And not from Mr Gavin Watson?

MS THOMAS: I do not... as I indicated earlier, Mr Agrizzi called me. He called and I said: I cannot assist you. I did not know what it was about. And I said: I cannot assist you. I am going to give you my colleague's number and you can talk to her. And he wanted to know where I am. Maybe he heard some things in the background, I am not sure but I said to him that I am hospital. You can speak to my colleague.

ADV NOTSHE SC: Yes.

10 **MS THOMAS**: Then that is the reason why obviously the card would have his name.

ADV NOTSHE SC: And then, the person... you had spoken to him twice, then sent you this message?

MS THOMAS: Excuse me?

ADV NOTSHE SC: I said the person who had spoken to you twice ...[intervenes]

MS THOMAS: We have spoken... when I say we have spoken once or twice, I am saying once or twice. We could have spoken more. It depends on what the necessity was
20 but I have spoken to him and I confirmed that yes, I did get these flowers.

ADV NOTSHE SC: I understand. So you spoke to him once or twice or more?

MS THOMAS: More.

ADV NOTSHE SC: What did you speak about?

MS THOMAS: Well, it would depend on what he needed.

ADV NOTSHE SC: What would that be?

MS THOMAS: I would not know. At one stage, I think he called. Like I said, the day when he called, I was in hospital. So I do not know what that one was all about.

ADV NOTSHE SC: Yes.

MS THOMAS: He called once. I was at work.

ADV NOTSHE SC: Yes.

MS THOMAS: So obviously... I know I was at work and I
10 was another call.

ADV NOTSHE SC: Yes.

MS THOMAS: I cancelled the call and I said I will call back, okay? So I called and he was in a meeting.

ADV NOTSHE SC: Yes.

MS THOMAS: And by then... so that call, he did not follow up. He could call me... he would call me about various things. Mr Watson ask me to call him.

ADV NOTSHE SC: Yes.

MS THOMAS: There were a number of issues that Mr
20 Watson would ask him to call him for.

ADV NOTSHE SC: What are those issues, please?

MS THOMAS: Well, it would be that Mr Watson had spoken to Ms Mokonyane and I need to... I cannot quite recollect what some of the issues were but it was quite a number of issues Mr Watson would have made with the late Mr

Mokonyane.

ADV NOTSHE SC: I see. And you cannot even remember one issue.

MS THOMAS: It will come back to Mr Nokkie(sic). I will... I am sure I would be able to answer that.

ADV NOTSHE SC: When? Today?

MS THOMAS: Not today.

ADV NOTSHE SC: I see. Right, now... so you... finally, your evidence is that you spoke to Mr Agrizzi more than
10 twice.

MS THOMAS: Yes. Mr Nortjie(sic), the nature of my job is such and Your Honour is that, you know, when you call people or people call you and depending on their tone, you can befriend a person. This is how I did things.

You can become comfortable and have a relationship with that person without knowing that person. If somebody calls and say: Hi, Sandy. It is Angelo here. I need to... I would oblige and be as friendly as I am.

So it is not a matter it had to be something necessarily.
20 It would be just: Hi, Sandy. Can you help me with a number of this? Can I... can you help me with a number of that? Did you know anything of this? Do you... who can I contact here and there?

Simple little things. You know, you develop relationships with people telephonically. And as I have indicated in my

affidavit. Look, I speak to people and have spoken to people, a lot of people and to date I still cannot face to those voices.

ADV NOTSHE SC: Okay.

MS THOMAS: It is just on how you work with people. You network telephonically and as a PA it helps. So I may call you at one stage and say: Mr Nortjie(sic), remember this day and that day? Can you help me out with something?

ADV NOTSHE SC: I understand. Sorry, sorry. I did not
10 want to embarrass you. It is Notshe. My surname is
...[intervenes]

MS THOMAS: Notshe? Okay sorry.

ADV NOTSHE SC: No, no. Do not worry. It is fine. I am used to it.

MS THOMAS: I thought I was putting it in an Afrikaans way.
[laughs]

ADV NOTSHE SC: I know. Ja, I know. At times, you know, I get to places and the people think I am Nortje.

MS THOMAS: Ja.

20 **ADV NOTSHE SC:** No, it is Notshe.

MS THOMAS: It is Notshe. And did I say Nortjie in Afrikaans?

ADV NOTSHE SC: Nortje, I think. [laughs] Now just tell the Commission about this. You said at times because Ms Mokonyane was away at meetings and what, you would have

to deal with her domestic things?

MS THOMAS: Yes.

ADV NOTSHE SC: Domestic affairs?

MS THOMAS: Yes.

ADV NOTSHE SC: And you say in those instances, perhaps you would be called by Mr Mokonyane?

MS THOMAS: I would call Mr Mokonyane.

ADV NOTSHE SC: To deal with these stuff?

MS THOMAS: Ja. Because the train that followed was for
10 them to call me because Mr Mokonyane himself will maybe in
a meeting and even if I could not reach him, I would ask his
PA where he is and I would send him a message: Sorry, Mr
Mokonyane, I need to talk to you urgently.

ADV NOTSHE SC: Yes.

MS THOMAS: So I would be the one making contact with
him. And he would then advise and tell me: This is what
you must do and that is what you must do.

ADV NOTSHE SC: And then also when there were problems
at the house. If he says there are problems, you would go
20 and try and assist him there?

MS THOMAS: The ladies at home would call me, yes.

ADV NOTSHE SC: Yes.

MS THOMAS: Often... more often the ladies at home. And I
would also call them because we had to establish a
relationship with the ladies working at home.

ADV NOTSHE SC: Yes.

MS THOMAS: Well, I had to.

ADV NOTSHE SC: And then you would go to the home if there was a problem?

MS THOMAS: Not necessarily, no.

ADV NOTSHE SC: when you say not necessarily, you say you could?

MS THOMAS: Look, if they call and then there is a problem and I can handle it at the time and sort it out, I would do so.

10 **MS THOMAS:** But I would only go to the house if and when it is necessary.

ADV NOTSHE SC: Was it necessary when you visited... Mr Agrizzi says in his evidence... and I will take you to the page. Turn to page 44. Actually, it starts at page 43.

MS THOMAS: Yes?

ADV NOTSHE SC: Look at page... if you look at the lines.

MS THOMAS: Okay?

ADV NOTSHE SC: This the... or let me just orientate on this. This is evidence, transcript of the evidence of Mr Agrizzi ...[intervenes]

20 **MS THOMAS:** Yes, I ...[intervenes]

ADV NOTSHE SC: ...when he testified before this Commission.

MS THOMAS: Yes, I have seen this Mr Notshe as part of my summons.

ADV NOTSHE SC: As part of the summons?

MS THOMAS: Yes, I have seen it.

ADV NOTSHE SC: But you... without me going into it, if you have seen it, Mr Agrizzi says:

“On one occasion they had to drive to the house, Ms Mokonyane’s house and had a meeting with you there. And it was him, Gavin Watson and you.”

You were there.

MS THOMAS: No.

ADV NOTSHE SC: Let...[intervenes]

10 **MS THOMAS**: I read it a couple of times. I read this one a couple of times and I tried to recall this. Ja, I see there, where it says her PA was there as well. Sandy. Sandy Thomas. I think her name was.

ADV NOTSHE SC: Ja.

MS THOMAS: This one I cannot honestly... Mr Notshe, I cannot recall. Ja.

ADV NOTSHE SC: You do not recall an incident where you were at the house with Mr Agrizzi and ...[intervenes]

MS THOMAS: And Mr Watson?

20 **ADV NOTSHE SC**: Yes.

MS THOMAS: No, no. Not in this instance, no.

CHAIRPERSON: You are not saying that it did not happen. You are simply saying you do not remember whether it happened?

MS THOMAS: I cannot remember anything like this.

CHAIRPERSON: Yes, okay.

MS THOMAS: It has been quite some time. I... this one, I do not remember anything of this. I went through it quite some time over and over and...

CHAIRPERSON: H'm.

ADV NOTSHE SC: I see. Now Ms Thomas, can you just tell the Commission, you... the... is it correct that the only things you did regarding the house, was to arrange for the repairs of things that had broken down in the house?

10 **MS THOMAS:** No, that is not the only things.

ADV NOTSHE SC: What are the other things?

MS THOMAS: Do I have to elaborate?

ADV NOTSHE SC: Sorry, can I ...[intervenes]

CHAIRPERSON: Maintenance issues ...[intervenes]

MS THOMAS: Can I give an example?

CHAIRPERSON: I think you said maintenance issues.

MS THOMAS: Maintenance issues, it would depend on what it is and whether the ladies would actually call me.

CHAIRPERSON: Yes.

20 **MS THOMAS:** Sometimes they would ...[intervenes]

CHAIRPERSON: When you refer to maintenance issue, what kind of issues are you having in mind?

MS THOMAS: Okay, for example, sometimes the lights would go off.

CHAIRPERSON: Ja.

MS THOMAS: So at times the ladies are not sure whether it is power failure or whether there is a problem, a switch or something in the house. What I would first do, Your Honour, is ask her to ask the police at the gate just to come and check what exactly it is and also find out in the area if it is in the area.

CHAIRPERSON: Ja.

MS THOMAS: Before we do anything and they would come back to me. If they come back to me and they say
10 no, no, it is in the area or it is just this house, that is when I would call Mr Mokonyane and say look, there is something wrong at home, we are not sure whether it is ...[intervenes]

CHAIRPERSON: Now did you say Mr or Ms Mokonyane?

MS THOMAS: Mr.

CHAIRPERSON: That is when you would call him?

MS THOMAS: Yes, I would call him because he was responsible for most of things around maintenance at home.

20 **CHAIRPERSON:** Yes, now how would you have become aware of the maintenance issue.

MS THOMAS: Well, what happened was, Mr Mokonyane had indicated to me that look, from time to time the ladies would call you directly.

CHAIRPERSON: That is the helper or what?

MS THOMAS: At home yes, their personal home.

CHAIRPERSON: Would call you directly.

MS THOMAS: It is not necessarily maintenance issues, that is why I am asking do I elaborate, it is not just maintenance issues.

CHAIRPERSON: Yes, no, no, I accept that.

MS THOMAS: Yes.

CHAIRPERSON: We talk about others, I just wanted to know what you are talking about when your maintenance
10 issues because in your affidavit you do refer to what you call maintenance issues, so I just want to [inaudible – speaking simultaneously]

MS THOMAS: Ja, I am referring to that as maintenance issues but overall, at home it would not just be maintenance issues.

CHAIRPERSON: Ja, no, no.

MS THOMAS: It would be whatever.

CHAIRPERSON: We will get to the others.

MS THOMAS: Yes.

20 **CHAIRPERSON:** So on maintenance on what you call maintenance issues you are talking about if the lights go off.

MS THOMAS: If the light go off, if the water goes off.

CHAIRPERSON: If the water goes off.

MS THOMAS: If there is a toilet leak.

CHAIRPERSON: Yes. There are problems with the security.

MS THOMAS: Ja, whatever.

CHAIRPERSON: Features in the house.

MS THOMAS: Yes.

CHAIRPERSON: With the electric fence.

MS THOMAS: Yes, whatever.

CHAIRPERSON: That kind of thing, ja.

MS THOMAS: Anything – well, the ladies just had this
10 thing that they would call me.

CHAIRPERSON: Yes, yes.

MS THOMAS: And if I know that Ms Mokanyane is not there, available, I would call Mr Mokanyane.

CHAIRPERSON: Yes.

MS THOMAS: But, you know, it ended up more so that I would rather just end up calling Mr Mokanyane.

CHAIRPERSON: Yes, yes, okay.

MS THOMAS: He is, after all, the principal of the house so I would call him.

20 **CHAIRPERSON:** Would they call you even if he was not present in the house?

MS THOMAS: No.

CHAIRPERSON: Oh, he would call in that case.

MS THOMAS: He would call if he needed to call.

CHAIRPERSON: So whenever the helper called for such –

called you on such issues it would mean that Mr Mokanyane is not home.

MS THOMAS: Yes.

CHAIRPERSON: Okay, alright. And then once you have been told exactly what the problem is ...(intervenes)

MS THOMAS: I would then ...[intervenes]

CHAIRPERSON: Maybe the police at the gate have looked around, you would then phone Mr Mokanyane to tell him what has been brought to your attention.

10 **MS THOMAS:** There is often – look, it depended, Your Honour, on what it was. If it was a plumbing issue, would call the plumbers.

CHAIRPERSON: Oh, you would call a plumber?

MS THOMAS: Directly, yes.

CHAIRPERSON: Oh, okay, alright.

MS THOMAS: If there was a leak, I would call the plumbers.

CHAIRPERSON: Yes.

20 **MS THOMAS:** If there is electrical fault, I would call the electrician.

CHAIRPERSON: Yes, yes, yes.

MS THOMAS: Directly.

CHAIRPERSON: Yes.

MS THOMAS: But if it is something that I do not have any clue on how to address it I would call Mr Mokanyane.

CHAIRPERSON: Yes. And I saw in your affidavit – I got the impression that you would call Mr le Roux sometimes for certain things.

MS THOMAS: Well, it depended.

CHAIRPERSON: Ja.

MS THOMAS: For example, I know that there was a day the alarm went crazy and they – I said to them switch it off at the mains or switch off the mains or switch off the power or whatever. And for some reason it still did not help. So I
10 then called Mr Mokanyane and said Chief, there is this problem at home, what do I do because it was rather noisy, according to the ladies, and he then said look, call this guy and speak to him about it.

CHAIRPERSON: Mr le Roux?

MS THOMAS: Yes.

CHAIRPERSON: Yes.

MS THOMAS: But knowing – no, I did not know his surname was Le Roux.

CHAIRPERSON: Oh.

20 **MS THOMAS:** I just know him as Richard.

CHAIRPERSON: Richard?

MS THOMAS: Yes.

CHAIRPERSON: Oh, okay, alright. Did that happen a number of times that when there was some or other problem at home ...[intervenenes]

MS THOMAS: Yes, I would ...[intervenes]

CHAIRPERSON: He said call Mr le Roux, Richard?

MS THOMAS: Call, Richard. Ja, we would get Richard to come out.

CHAIRPERSON: Ja, it happened a number of times?

MS THOMAS: Ja or I am in – wherever he is, can you please call Richard. Otherwise ...[intervenes]

CHAIRPERSON: Okay and then in that case you would then call Mr le Roux?

10 **MS THOMAS:** Yes, yes.

CHAIRPERSON: And then, as far as you know, he would then go to the house and try and attend to the problem.

MS THOMAS: He would try and attend to it and often I would ask him to please let me know whether it is attended to or sorted or whatever.

CHAIRPERSON: Yes, yes, yes.

MS THOMAS: And then...

CHAIRPERSON: Ja and he – would he report back to you?

20 **MS THOMAS:** Yes, he would, he would tell me no, it is sorted.

CHAIRPERSON: Yes.

MS THOMAS: He would – I would ask him, what was the problem so that if it happens in future what do I do, you know?

CHAIRPERSON: Yes, yes. And would he tell you?

MS THOMAS: He would tell me that no, it is the switch or that switch, but...

CHAIRPERSON: Yes.

MS THOMAS: And that is where it ends.

CHAIRPERSON: Now you have said that that happened a number of times. Would you say it is stretched over many years, I mean, you were with Mrs Mokonyane for about ...[intervenenes]

10 **MS THOMAS:** No, not – it would not stretch over that many years.

CHAIRPERSON: Yes, maybe from 2010 maybe or for...?

MS THOMAS: No, we have had – there is people that was there to do the electricity.

CHAIRPERSON: Ja.

MS THOMAS: There is people that was there to do the plumbing.

CHAIRPERSON: Ja.

20 **MS THOMAS:** So where I could sort it out, I would sort it out.

CHAIRPERSON: Yes, yes.

MS THOMAS: And not necessarily have to call Mr Mokanyane.

CHAIRPERSON: Yes.

MS THOMAS: I would call him after.

CHAIRPERSON: Yes.

MS THOMAS: And say – or even tell her after.

CHAIRPERSON: Yes.

MS THOMAS: You know, sometimes I would forget.

CHAIRPERSON: Ja.

MS THOMAS: That there was this problem and it has been sorted.

CHAIRPERSON: So you are able to say there were a number of times when you were asked to conduct Mr le
10 Roux – that is Mr Richard le Roux...

MS THOMAS: Ja, Richard.

CHAIRPERSON: ...to go and attend to some problem, some or other problem in the house but you cannot say over what period.

MS THOMAS: No, not – it was not over a long period.

CHAIRPERSON: It was not over a long period.

MS THOMAS: No, no.

CHAIRPERSON: Okay, alright, thank you.

ADV NOTSHE SC: Now why would you – when there is the
20 issue of the alarm, why did you not call the alarm people as you say you usually do?

MS THOMAS: I do not have anybody that – I do not know who deals with the alarms.

ADV NOTSHE SC: Yes.

MS THOMAS: I do not know anybody that – if there was

somebody that was dealing with alarms or with the alarm or if I had known who installed the alarm or I would have called that person.

ADV NOTSHE SC: But now in instances where you would call the electrician, would you then arrange for the payment of the electricians?

MS THOMAS: They would leave the invoice at the house and it would be paid by Mrs Mokanyane. They would always leave the invoice with the ladies at home.

10 **ADV NOTSHE SC:** Now did Mr le Roux leave and invoice for the alarm?

MS THOMAS: I do not know.

ADV NOTSHE SC: And you confirm when you were asked by the Chair that you did not call Mr le Roux, you called him a number of times.

MS THOMAS: Ja, a few times.

ADV NOTSHE SC: I see. And you – on page 37 there is an email – an SMS, I think, on the 1 June 2017.

MS THOMAS: Yes.

20 **ADV NOTSHE SC:** And the SMSes from you to Mr le Roux.

MS THOMAS: Yes, like I said, I did not know his surname was Le Roux at – the one that read: Dear Richard.

ADV NOTSHE SC: Is this from you to him?

MS THOMAS: Yes.

ADV NOTSHE SC: And when you say: Dear Richard – let

me read it:

“Dear Richard, there is a problem with the house with the alarm system, for some reason it keeps ringing so it now has to be switched off at the switch.”

Now you did not give a house number, am I right?

MS THOMAS: No, I did not.

ADV NOTSHE SC: Why?

MS THOMAS: I was told by Mr Mokanyane to contact
10 Richard and say to him that there is this problem with the alarm, please he must tell me what to do and that was it.

ADV NOTSHE SC: So Richard knew – Mr le Roux knew what house you are talking about?

MS THOMAS: Well, he obviously would have known because I was told just to tell him that.

ADV NOTSHE SC: He told you not to tell him which house it is?

MS THOMAS: No, no, I did not – no, no, I am saying he would have known. I am not saying that he did not know or
20 that I did not tell him, I am saying he would know because I was told by Mr Mokanyane to contact him.

ADV NOTSHE SC: Yes.

CHAIRPERSON: Ja, based on what the witness has said, Mr le Roux apparently had gone to the house a number of times, is it not?

MS THOMAS: Yes.

CHAIRPERSON: So he would know the house.

MS THOMAS: Look, he may have even been at the house without my knowledge, Your Honour.

CHAIRPERSON: Ja.

MS THOMAS: But I was told by Mr Mokanyane contact him and ask him to assist. Hence, I am saying that please let know what to do because I had no clue what is going on with the alarm so this email – sorry, this SMS.

10 **MS THOMAS:** SMS.

ADV NOTSHE SC: Was not your first contract with Mr le Roux.

MS THOMAS: No, no it was not my first contact with Mr le Roux.

ADV NOTSHE SC: Hence you do not have the house numbers here.

20 **MS THOMAS:** No, I do not have the house numbers because I – once I called him, I think more or less for the same problem, I just called and said the alarm is still doing the same thing, the alarm is ringing. It was a time the alarm was just giving problems, so I would call and say the alarm is going off. If he is in the area, he would say I am in the area, I will sort it out and I will tell Mr Mokanyane that Mr Mokanyane, I called Richard, he will go and sort it out from there on.

ADV NOTSHE SC: I see. And you said you dealt with the issues of maintenance and other issues.

MS THOMAS: Yes, that is why I asked if I should elaborate.

ADV NOTSHE SC: Please elaborate.

CHAIRPERSON: Yes, elaborate.

MS THOMAS: Other issues like, for example, you know, sometimes we had a lady that – like I said earlier, we had a problem with one of the toilets and it was leaking water.
10 So the ladies had called me and said Sisi, there is this problem with one of the toilets and it was – I know it was leaking water, so the ladies have called me and said Sisi, there is this problem with the toilet, so I would call the plumber. It is okay, let me call the plumber and they will come out. So they would – look, I do not know what will go on there and we then call the ladies and then they will tell me no, it is sorted and that is it.

Other issues, there is a lady I know that used to or still does, I am not sure, delivers flowers, so she would
20 also leave the invoice at home and the lady at the house would say to me so and so was here and she delivered the invoice, please remind mama to pay it and then I would say to her you know what, put it at a place where mama can see it and then you give it to her when she gets there because I am not in a position to say that there is this

thing, I may not even see her because more often you do not even get to see – so when she comes home, you just give it to her.

ADV NOTSHE SC: And you were not involved in the ordering of new equipment we fitted at the house.

MS THOMAS: No, I ...[intervenes]

ADV NOTSHE SC: And Mr Mokanyane did not instruct you to...

MS THOMAS: No, Mr Mokanyane would – no, Mr
10 Mokanyane would do those things himself because I would not know what exactly is needed there.

ADV NOTSHE SC: I see. Now this Mr – this Richard...

MS THOMAS: Richard, yes?

ADV NOTSHE SC: Yes. Where did he work?

MS THOMAS: I did not know where he worked, I did not even know what company he was working for.

ADV NOTSHE SC: And how do you get hold of him?

MS THOMAS: Mr Mokanyane gave me his number.

ADV NOTSHE SC: And there was - he never arranged for
20 the installation of CCTVs at the house of Mr and Mrs Mokanyane?

MS THOMAS: No. No, my only arrangement, I would just say look, as directed, I would just say that Cynthia – oops, sorry, x, y, z is – or not even Cynthia, Busisiwe, somebody is coming to the house, Ntata will tell you what they are

going to do. If he has not told you, this is what is going to happen, people are coming and this is but not what time or whatever, I do not know what time they would come.

ADV NOTSHE SC: But you were never instructed that there were people going to install CCTVs.

MS THOMAS: No, not CCTVs, no, not to my knowledge. I would just be told please tell Busi or please tell this one or please tell Grace that people are coming, they must open for them so that they could tell the police.

10 **ADV NOTSHE SC:** You were the link between the outside world and the department – between the department and the minister. Anything going to Minister, official, will come through you?

MS THOMAS: Not quite as – I am the PA, I am maybe the link.

CHAIRPERSON: Some things will come through you, others will not.

MS THOMAS: Yes, some things would come, some would not.

20 **CHAIRPERSON:** Ja.

MS THOMAS: We also had a Chief of Staff, we also had a media liaison and they had direct access to her so it would or would not come through me.

ADV NOTSHE SC: And no department, no government department liaise with you to install CCTVs at Ms

Mokanyane's house.

MS THOMAS: At home?

ADV NOTSHE SC: At home.

MS THOMAS: Okay, when we were at housing, it was a whole arrangement, I know that they did upgrades and it was a whole arrangement because I had to facilitate them going to the house. So I had to inform the ladies at home that people are coming from the department and that happened during the time when we were at the Department
10 of Housing.

ADV NOTSHE SC: So Department of Housing contacted you?

MS THOMAS: It is not the Department of Housing, *per se*, we were at the Department of Housing at the time.

ADV NOTSHE SC: Okay.

MS THOMAS: And it is not the Department of Housing *per se* but obviously there is security and risk analysis people, they would be there, the security guys, all of that was arranged through the office of the Premier.

20 **ADV NOTSHE SC**: Let us get this clear. Who contacted you about the installation of CCTVs at Ms Mokanyane's house?

MS THOMAS: The gentlemen at the Office of the Premier.

ADV NOTSHE SC: And the Office of the Premier said there will be installations at Ms Mokanyane's house?

MS THOMAS: Well, the first point of contact was when they told me that they needed to go and do an assessment and they had to visit the house to see what needs to be done, what needs to be installed and what needs to be repaired and for security reasons I needed to just inform the ladies that they would come.

ADV NOTSHE SC: And do you inform the ladies?

MS THOMAS: Yes, I would inform the ladies.

ADV NOTSHE SC: And then did you get a feedback about
10 the assessment that had been done?

MS THOMAS: Not a full feedback because it was not within my scope. We had a head of office even then, so the head of office would also, as the head of office, they have broader scope but I would not get feedback. They would either talk to head of office or – but not even directly to Ms Mokanyane.

ADV NOTSHE SC: And the ...[intervenes]

CHAIRPERSON: Ja. I am sorry, Mr Notshe, let us take
20 the tea adjournment. We will adjourn now for tea and
resume at twenty five to twelve.

ADV NOTSHE SC: Thank you, Chair.

CHAIRPERSON: We adjourn.

INQUIRY ADJOURNS

INQUIRY RESUMES

CHAIRPERSON: I take it, Mr Notshe, that you should be

able to finish in the next 25 minutes? Ja. H'm? Switch on your mic.

ADV NOTSHE SC: Well, it also depends on Mrs Thomas or Ms Thomas.

CHAIRPERSON: Well, as I see, it should not be a problem, finishing within 25 minutes.

ADV NOTSHE SC: Ms Thomas, I just want you to confirm this. You say that the Office of the Premier went and did assessments, security risk assessments at the private
10 home of Ms Mokanyane and then they installed CCTVs at the home of Ms Mokanyane?

MS THOMAS: At the private residence and this was during her time as the MEC for Housing.

ADV NOTSHE SC: And did they write back to you or send you an invoice or...?

MS THOMAS: No, I just – all I had to do was facilitate their visit there. Other than that – no.

ADV NOTSHE SC: You facilitated their visit to install these?

20 **MS THOMAS:** To do the risk assessment, to go and have a look at the house and they obviously had their reports which they would not share with me. I am not privy to that kind of information.

ADV NOTSHE SC: Yes.

CHAIRPERSON: They talked to you making a risk

assessment?

MS THOMAS: No, Your Honour, they just may ask me to please make sure that they have access to the property.

ADV NOTSHE SC: Ja.

MS THOMAS: And they were also accompanied by one of our security people in the department.

CHAIRPERSON: Ja.

MS THOMAS: Yes.

ADV NOTSHE SC: And then – sorry.

10 **CHAIRPERSON:** But you – that was for a risk assessment as you understood the position?

MS THOMAS: Yes.

CHAIRPERSON: Okay, alright. Continue?

ADV NOTSHE SC: And then they then later on asked you to arrange for them to install the CCTVs?

MS THOMAS: Well, they would have spoken to Mr Mokanyane but they would have done that too and my knowledge, I also in that made that arrangement to facilitate that they had been given access and that was it.

20 I do not ...[intervenes]

CHAIRPERSON: I am sorry, are you saying that they spoke to you when they wanted to install CCTV cameras?

MS THOMAS: I would - Your Honour, I would just be the one that would ask, they would say make arrangements for the people at home, we are coming on this particular day.

CHAIRPERSON: Yes.

MS THOMAS: Yes.

CHAIRPERSON: But what I am asking is, whether you are saying at some point they contacted you.

MS THOMAS: Yes.

CHAIRPERSON: And asked you to make arrangements.

MS THOMAS: So that they could go back to the house and they will be working at home, that is all. The word was, they will be working at home.

10 **CHAIRPERSON:** Oh, they did not talk about installation of the CCTV, they just said they want to do some work.

MS THOMAS: I would ask, I would say what are you going to do? No, we are going to do the fences, we are going to check the gates and we are going to – ja.

CHAIRPERSON: So you say that is what they told you?

MS THOMAS: Ja, they just said we are going to do the fence, the gates, cameras.

CHAIRPERSON: Yes.

MS THOMAS: The lights need...

20 **CHAIRPERSON:** Yes.

MS THOMAS: Ja. But that is it.

CHAIRPERSON: But you do not know whether they actually did that, you just know they talk to you about planning to do it.

MS THOMAS: They were there. They were there because

at one point Mr Mokanyane met with them to discuss the issue of the gate.

CHAIRPERSON: Yes.

MS THOMAS: Ja.

CHAIRPERSON: Yes, so – okay, what you are dealing with is quite important. Now you say you know for sure?

MS THOMAS: Yes, I do, Your Honour.

CHAIRPERSON: That they did what?

MS THOMAS: That they went and they put on the electric
10 fence, they did the lights.

CHAIRPERSON: They put up the electric fence.

ADV NOTSHE SC: Yes, they did the lights and a few other things, I am not sure what else.

CHAIRPERSON: Security lights.

MS THOMAS: Ja, there was quite a number of things that they did.

CHAIRPERSON: And CCTV cameras.

MS THOMAS: Yes.

CHAIRPERSON: Yes.

20 **MS THOMAS:** They put up a room for the police.

CHAIRPERSON: Yes.

MS THOMAS: You know, to be sheltered, especially in rainy weather and so on.

CHAIRPERSON: Yes.

MS THOMAS: So they had to put in monitors and things

like that, ja.

CHAIRPERSON: Yes. So that you know.

MS THOMAS: That I know, yes.

CHAIRPERSON: And you know it because they told you so or because you were there when they did it.

MS THOMAS: No, I know that because I was told this is what – because I asked.

CHAIRPERSON: Yes, okay.

MS THOMAS: I cannot just say that you need access to
10 the house, I need to know what you are going to do.

CHAIRPERSON: Okay, alright.

ADV NOTSHE SC: Now the investigators, and you know the investigators for the Commission, you have met them on occasion.

MS THOMAS: Yes.

ADV NOTSHE SC: The contacted the Office of the Premier.

MS THOMAS: Okay.

ADV NOTSHE SC: And it said it did not do any – did not
20 install any security features at the house.

MS THOMAS: Well, I find that strange.

CHAIRPERSON: But did she not say it was Housing department?

ADV NOTSHE SC: No, she says it was done by the Premier's office.

MS THOMAS: It was a time when I know that there was things that was done at MEC's homes.

CHAIRPERSON: It was when Ms Mokanyane was MEC.

MS THOMAS: An MEC, not a Premier.

CHAIRPERSON: Ja, was she MEC for Housing at the time?

MS THOMAS: She was MEC for housing.

CHAIRPERSON: So it was people from the Housing department that you spoke to.

10 **MS THOMAS:** We had a person from the Housing department and we had people from the Office of the Premier who coordinated and SAPS.

CHAIRPERSON: Okay.

MS THOMAS: They coordinated because there was a need for – I do not know, some sort of an upgrade to MEC's homes.

CHAIRPERSON: Oh, okay.

MS THOMAS: So it was not just Ms Mokanyane as the MEC at that time.

20 **CHAIRPERSON:** Yes, yes.

MS THOMAS: It was something to do with MEC's homes, but not during her term as Premier.

CHAIRPERSON: Yes, okay.

ADV NOTSHE SC: Your evidence now before break, you said this was done by the Office of the Premier.

MS THOMAS: Yes, I am saying that Office of the Premier with a person from the Department of Housing and SAPS, it was all coordinated.

ADV NOTSHE SC: The Office of the Premier said they did no upgrades and they did not install security features at the house.

MS THOMAS: Well, that I did not know but what I can say and I can confirm that whatever was done it was done through SAPS at the Office of the Premier.

10 **ADV NOTSHE SC:** Which office?

MS THOMAS: It may even be the Department of Housing, I do not know those technicalities.

ADV NOTSHE SC: But which office said to you, you want to go to Ms Mokanyane's home to install security features, please ...(intervenes)

MS THOMAS: The gentleman that we were working with at the Department of Housing that is responsible for safety, so it was a matter of assessments and things like that and I do know ...[intervenes]

20 **ADV NOTSHE SC:** Okay.

CHAIRPERSON: Do you remember his name by any chance?

MS THOMAS: I remember his face. I am not sure if it is Thabo, something like that but I cannot remember his name.

CHAIRPERSON: Yes.

MS THOMAS: But he was responsible for security.

CHAIRPERSON: Is there anybody else ...[intervenes]

MS THOMAS: At the office of – at the Department of Housing.

CHAIRPERSON: Is there anybody else either in the Premier's office or in the Housing department or SAPS whose name you remember?

MS THOMAS: Not SAPS, I would not know, Your Honour.

10 **CHAIRPERSON:** Not SAPS, ja. Premier's office? Somebody that...?

MS THOMAS: Office of the Premier they have their own security, I do not know if there was still – if there is people there, the same people, if they are still there.

CHAIRPERSON: Yes, but are you able to remember the names of some of the people from the Premier's office who were involved who would know about this if the Commission wants to check?

20 **MS THOMAS:** We – there was a Colin, I do not know if he is still there or if he was even involved during that period. I just know his name as Colin, I do not know if he was part of the involvement but he was at the office of the Premier. Ja.

CHAIRPERSON: Ja, okay.

ADV NOTSHE SC: And then the – so just to get it clear so

that there is no I misunderstanding. The person who asked for you to arrange for security features to be installed was a person from Department of Housing, is that correct?

MS THOMAS: Yes, it was done through the department – gentleman that was responsible for security at the Department of Housing.

ADV NOTSHE SC: And do you know who the person is?

MS THOMAS: As I indicated now, it is either Thabo or something, I do not even know. I can see his face though
10 but in terms of his name, I cannot recall. It could be Thabo something, I am not sure.

ADV NOTSHE SC: If the Commission were to ask Department of Housing what section of the department should they ask ...[intervenes]

MS THOMAS: It would be the ...[intervenes]

CHAIRPERSON: You said security is it not?

MS THOMAS: Ja, security, yes.

CHAIRPERSON: It was somebody who was from the security.

20 **MS THOMAS:** Somebody that was working with security, yes.

CHAIRPERSON: Department of Housing.

MS THOMAS: Yes, in the Department of Housing.

CHAIRPERSON: Do you know if that person was the head of the security unit at the housing department?

MS THOMAS: I do not know, Your Honour, if he was the head or ...[intervenes]

CHAIRPERSON: You do not know, okay.

MS THOMAS: Or if he was just assigned to take care of the matter, I do not know.

CHAIRPERSON: Ja, okay.

ADV NOTSHE SC: I see. Now you had promised the Chair and the Commission that things would come back to you.

MS THOMAS: H'm.

10 **ADV NOTSHE SC:** Has anything come back to you?

MS THOMAS: When I went to the bathroom, I tried to recall a few things. No, no.

ADV NOTSHE SC: Because Mr Agrizzi does recall in his evidence what he discussed with you.

MS THOMAS: What he discussed with me?

ADV NOTSHE SC: Yes.

MS THOMAS: Can I go to that?

ADV NOTSHE SC: If you go to page 56 of the record.

MS THOMAS: Page 50...?

20 **ADV NOTSHE SC:** 56.

CHAIRPERSON: Well, Mr Notshe, before you proceed, for quite some time I was under the impression that Mr Agrizzi's evidence and Mr le Roux's evidence was to the effect that BOSASA installed the CCTV cameras.

ADV NOTSHE SC: Yes.

CHAIRPERSON: But when I was looking at this affidavit Mr Agrizzi last night, I did not seem to pick that up and I do not know whether it is in Mr le Roux's affidavit because I did not have that affidavit at hand and when I did not seem to pick that part up in Mr Agrizzi's three affidavits, I thought that maybe what he said was that BOSASA attended to repairs and maintenance of the security features at Ms Nomvula Mokanyane's private house as opposed to having bought and installed the CCTV cameras.

10 So I do not know whether it is something you are sure about or whether you might be mistaken like I was.

ADV NOTSHE SC: Chair, my recollection is Richard le Roux seems to confirm that they installed the CCTVs. I will also have to check.

CHAIRPERSON: Ja, you see, that is why it would have helped if those affidavits were here.

ADV NOTSHE SC: Yes.

CHAIRPERSON: Ja.

ADV NOTSHE SC: But, Chair, as the matter stand now,
20 the witness says these were installed by the Department of Housing and I will go back to the evidence and check with the witness, with the – and check with the investigating officers and then – and look at that with the evidence of Agrizzi and Le Roux and then we can deal with that if something comes out of it. But in any event, the

investigators will follow up the evidence of Ms Thomas insofar as the installation of this by the...

CHAIRPERSON: Ja, it is just that if Mr Agrizzi and Mr le Roux, if the position is that they do not say that the CCTV cameras were installed by BOSASA then that issue falls away.

ADV PRETORIUS SC: Yes.

CHAIRPERSON: And if all they are saying it was – BOSASA was repairing and maintaining security features
10 that had been installed by somebody else.

ADV NOTSHE SC: Yes.

CHAIRPERSON: Ja. And Ms Thomas has made it clear that there were a number of times when she had to contact Mr Richard le Roux with regard to things to be fixed at home, at the private home of Ms Mokanyane.

ADV NOTSHE SC: Yes.

CHAIRPERSON: So, in other words, if you need to check whether Mr Agrizzi's evidence and Mr le Roux's evidence includes saying that BOSASA installed the CCTV cameras.

20 **ADV NOTSHE SC:** Yes.

CHAIRPERSON: Because if it does not include that, maybe there is no reason to go further about the installation.

ADV NOTSHE SC: Yes.

CHAIRPERSON: But with regard to maintenance, I think

that her evidence seems to support a least part of what Mr Agrizzi said insofar as Mr Agrizzi said at a certain stage BOSASA put together a team led by Mr Richard le Roux that was meant to take care of whatever issues arose in the house, so what she has said seems to be consistent with that.

ADV NOTSHE SC: Yes.

CHAIRPERSON: Insofar as maintenance and issues are concerned.

10 **ADV NOTSHE SC:** Yes.

CHAIRPERSON: Ja.

ADV NOTSHE SC: Now just before I take you to page 56.

Are you there, page 56?

CHAIRPERSON: Did you say 53?

ADV NOTSHE SC: No, five six.

CHAIRPERSON: Five six.

ADV NOTSHE SC: Yes.

CHAIRPERSON: Okay.

MS THOMAS: And is 56 part of the summons?

20 **ADV NOTSHE SC:** No, no, 56 is part of – yes, the summons, it is annexure to the summons. Look at 56 at the top.

CHAIRPERSON: The right hand ...[intervenes]

MS THOMAS: It is very tiny. Little tiny [inaudible – speaking simultaneously]

CHAIRPERSON: Hang on, hang on, we cannot all speak at the same time. Why is the writing on those pages so small?

MS THOMAS: I cannot see anything here.

CHAIRPERSON: Ja, Mr Notshe, why?

ADV NOTSHE SC: I suppose, Chair ...[intervenes]

CHAIRPERSON: Because the other pages are fine.

ADV NOTSHE SC: I suppose we were trying to save paper but I would not know why, I do not know why they print it
10 like this.

CHAIRPERSON: Well, somebody should have checked this bundle and seen that these pages with such fine print should be replaced with others that have got the correct size of print. It is difficult to read here. Yes?

ADV NOTSHE SC: Chair, just to – on the part of the people who keep the records there has been concern that – if you look at the pages, they would have had about more than 10 pages, 20 pages of this. I think at times it is merely to save paper and costs.

20 **CHAIRPERSON:** But it does not save – it does not have to save paper if we cannot read it. The whole point is that we must read it first, we must be able to read.

ADV NOTSHE SC: Can I continue to refer the witness or should I get ...[intervenes]

CHAIRPERSON: Ja, refer the witness if you can, if she

can see – maybe you ...[intervenes]

MS THOMAS: It is fine.

CHAIRPERSON: You will read for us if you able to read it.

ADV NOTSHE SC: I can.

MS THOMAS: I think so.

CHAIRPERSON: Ja, read for all of us but will you arrange afterwards that the pages here are replaced by pages with pages that have got the correct size of the print?

10 **ADV NOTSHE SC:** And it says on page 9 of 142 pages and it is the left hand side of the document and it starts by 21 January 2019, day 37 and then there is Advocate Paul Pretorius SC, he says:

“Were further instructions given to you by Mr Gavin Watson after 2002 in relation to Ms Mokanyane?”

Then Mr Agrizzi says:

20 “Chair, there were numerous requests that were given through the year. These I have to contact a personal assistant and these included organising and paying of funerals in respect of deceased family members, I would have to arrange for a rental vehicle up to three months at a time for her daughter when her daughter was coming back from China where she was studying and...”

And then intervene. So what I wanted to refer you, it

seems as if Mr Agrizzi says ...[intervenes]

MS THOMAS: Yes, Mr...?

ADV NOTSHE SC: Seems as Mr Agrizzi says he dealt with you arranging funerals and even hiring of cars.

MS THOMAS: No.

ADV NOTSHE SC: Why do you say no because when you say you cannot remember what you discussed with Mr Agrizzi?

MS THOMAS: I can confirm that I have not arranged
10 vehicles through Mr Agrizzi nor funerals and I know that there was even made mention of ANC rallies and catering and cakes. No.

ADV NOTSHE SC: And yet up to now you cannot remember what you discussed with him?

MS THOMAS: Those particular items, I have never spoken to Mr Agrizzi about, it is not – did not fall under my ambit, unfortunately.

ADV NOTSHE SC: I see. Now, lastly, do you say these security upgrades, TVs and – were installed by the
20 Department of Housing?

MS THOMAS: I – Mr Notshe, maybe just a point, I am sorry that I have to interrupt and I am sorry, Your Honour, but ...[intervenes]

ADV NOTSHE SC: No, do not worry, it is fine.

MS THOMAS: I made it clear that I said it was a

coordinated matter between the security people at housing, SAPS as well as the security people at the Office of the Premier. So who installed it, who paid for it, I unfortunately cannot answer on that one.

ADV NOTSHE SC: Now do you know when these had faults, why would you call Mr le Roux instead of calling the department that had installed them?

MS THOMAS: Well, if you look at the timeframes, we were at the office of the Department of Housing. Where
10 and why I was called, Mr le Roux was much later in the time and that is what it is. At the Department of Housing and at the Office of the Premier I was not relating to Mr le Roux at all. So this installation was way before the time of Mr le Roux and Mr le Roux only came in the latter part of the year so ...[intervenes]

CHAIRPERSON: Did you deal with Mr le Roux during the time when Ms Mokanyane was Minister of Sanitation and ...[intervenes]

MS THOMAS: That particular SMS, Your Honour, was
20 during that time.

CHAIRPERSON: Yes.

MS THOMAS: Ja and that was her private home.

CHAIRPERSON: Did you also deal with Mr le Roux at other times other than when Ms Mokanyane was Minister?

MS THOMAS: No.

CHAIRPERSON: It was only when she was Minister as far as you remember?

MS THOMAS: Yes.

CHAIRPERSON: Okay.

ADV NOTSHE SC: Chair, just lastly – or just for reference, I had referred to emails on pages 83, 85. Those emails, Chair, are on EXHIBIT T29 which will be the affidavit of Ms Gina Peters, I am merely mentioning them for purposes of reading and record.

10 **CHAIRPERSON:** Okay.

ADV NOTSHE SC: This affidavit, we will have it admitted later when Ms Gina Peters testifies.

CHAIRPERSON: Yes.

ADV NOTSHE SC: I have no further questions for the witness.

CHAIRPERSON: Yes. What is the arrangement about when she is testifying?

ADV NOTSHE SC: Testifying on Wednesday, the 2nd.

CHAIRPERSON: On Wednesday?

20 **ADV NOTSHE SC:** Yes.

CHAIRPERSON: We have another witness who should take the whole day on Wednesday. How long do you think she is going to be?

ADV NOTSHE SC: She should not be long, she should not be long, Chair, this is ...[intervenes]

CHAIRPERSON: That is like what?

ADV NOTSHE SC: If unless you were to make an arrangement for her to start at nine, we should finish by ten.

CHAIRPERSON: Okay, so I think we may have to make that arrangement.

ADV NOTSHE SC: I will arrange now, it is early enough.

CHAIRPERSON: Ja.

10 **ADV NOTSHE SC:** It is early enough for us to arrange to start at nine.

CHAIRPERSON: Ja.

ADV NOTSHE SC: And then by ten we will be done.

CHAIRPERSON: Ja. Or maybe we say half past nine?

ADV NOTSHE SC: Half past nine still, it is...

CHAIRPERSON: Ja.

ADV NOTSHE SC: Even if we start at half past nine, Chair, we will just – the latest will be just on the other side of ten.

CHAIRPERSON: Ja, let us say half past nine.

20 **ADV NOTSHE SC:** That is fine.

CHAIRPERSON: Ja. Okay, alright. Ms Thomas...

MS THOMAS: Yes, Your Honour?

CHAIRPERSON: In your affidavit you have also dealt with Mr Agrizzi's evidence relating to the - or his evidence that BOSASA provided Ms Mokanyane with groceries. Do you

remember that?

MS THOMAS: Yes, I do.

CHAIRPERSON: Yes and he listed in his affidavit some of the items of the groceries that he said were bought for Ms Mokanyane and they included meat and they included liquor and they included a number of things. I think they are set out in his affidavit.

MS THOMAS: Yes, Your Honour.

CHAIRPERSON: And you have responded in paragraph 91
10 to that part of his evidence and you said:

“Another aspect that warrants specific mention
pertains to large scale groceries, arrangements for
the mentioned birthdays and burials of the
deceased, loved ones of the Mokanyane family.
The large-scale groceries could not have been for
the family consumption. I believe this aspect was
cleared by the former Minister herself. My
knowledge of the arrangements in the house
objectively conveys the message that the type of
20 large scale groceries could not have been
accommodated in the house.”

You remember that is what you say in your affidavit, that
paragraph 91.1?

MS THOMAS: Let me just go to that, sorry, Your Honour?

CHAIRPERSON: You want to find it in your affidavit?

MS THOMAS: Yes, I was there now.

CHAIRPERSON: Okay, paragraph 91.1. Okay and then in 91.2 you say.

“However, I distinctly remember that there were instances when I corresponded with people including Mr Agrizzi.

MS THOMAS: Yes.

CHAIRPERSON: “...Relating to such large scale type of groceries that is mentioned for the community projects for the elderly in Kagiso.”

And then:

“Even then Mr Watson would always be the person that initiated the entire process. He would telephone me and intimidatingly and yet joyfully say “Now we are stop everything and focus on the people that really need a bright festive season.”

And you say:

“I would immediately know who to contact and establish the anticipated number of people in need. I would also make sure that the relevant dates are noted in the calendar.”

Now it seems to me – and you must tell me if I misunderstand your evidence, it seems to me that you are saying you know about groceries paid or purchased by BOSASA but you are saying as far as you know they were

for needy people in the community and not for the Mokanyane family.

MS THOMAS: Yes, Chair.

CHAIRPERSON: Is that right?

MS THOMAS: That is correct, Your Honour.

CHAIRPERSON: Ja. Now the – your involvement in all of this, these groceries, I take it you were involved because your principal, Ms Mokanyane, had something to do with them, there was a role she was to play?

10 **MS THOMAS**: Parcels would be made.

CHAIRPERSON: Sorry?

MS THOMAS: Parcels would be made.

CHAIRPERSON: Ja.

MS THOMAS: And it would go to families in Kagiso.

CHAIRPERSON: Yes.

MS THOMAS: We would – ladies would know who to invite, which families are in most need and it would then go to those families. The numbers would normally vary.

CHAIRPERSON: Yes.

20 **MS THOMAS**: So even if you are proving for 70 or 30 people, you know, word of mouth, you will always find more people so one would try and accommodate for just the bit extra.

CHAIRPERSON: Ja.

MS THOMAS: Ja.

CHAIRPERSON: Did you say the ladies who would know?

MS THOMAS: We had ...[intervenes]

CHAIRPERSON: I thought you said something that ladies would know.

MS THOMAS: Yes, I did say. We had a network of people in the area, Kagiso community work. They did not just work, they did not work for Ms Mokanyane or anybody.

CHAIRPERSON: Ja.

MS THOMAS: They did mostly community work in Kagiso.

10 **CHAIRPERSON:** Ja.

MS THOMAS: So they would know, you know, where there is a need.

CHAIRPERSON: Yes.

MS THOMAS: And they would identify.

CHAIRPERSON: Yes.

MS THOMAS: But it is not the same ladies, it would always be different people because people come and go. But they would know who the needy are, the most needy, actually. And it was a yearly thing. There was one time
20 when we did it even for her birthday but it was arranged completely differently so that ...[intervenes]

CHAIRPERSON: Well, would Ms Mokonyane be involved in the distribution of those groceries or parcels?

MS THOMAS: Well, I was not there.

CHAIRPERSON: Yes.

MS THOMAS: So I do not know if she was there.

CHAIRPERSON: Yes.

MS THOMAS: But I was not there, I would just be part of the here and there and make sure that this is there and liaise with her sister, who is late, and she would also know that this is coming and this is what it is needed for.

CHAIRPERSON: I am sorry, I did not here that.

MS THOMAS: I would liaise with her late sister.

CHAIRPERSON: Whose late sister?

10 **MS THOMAS:** Ms Mokanyane's late sister.

CHAIRPERSON: Yes.

MS THOMAS: Ja.

CHAIRPERSON: You would liaise with her?

MS THOMAS: Yes.

CHAIRPERSON: Okay. In order to identify ...[intervenes]

MS THOMAS: No, no, just to indicate that there would be this coming.

CHAIRPERSON: Ja?

20 **MS THOMAS:** And this is where you put it because we would be making parcels.

CHAIRPERSON: Oh, did she leave in Kagiso?

MS THOMAS: Ja, she is from Kagiso.

CHAIRPERSON: Okay.

MS THOMAS: But she was living at the home.

CHAIRPERSON: Oh, okay. So was she a common

feature, you said the ladies would change, it would not be same people all the time, would she always be ...[intervenes]

MS THOMAS: She was at the house.

CHAIRPERSON: Ja?

MS THOMAS: And besides – she was living at the house, so besides the ladies, the helpers, she was there living at the house so ...[intervenes]

CHAIRPERSON: Is that at Ms Mokanyane's house?

10 **MS THOMAS:** Ja.

CHAIRPERSON: Oh, her sister lived in that house?

MS THOMAS: Yes.

CHAIRPERSON: Okay.

MS THOMAS: So obviously for me that would be the safest person in the safest place to have things dropped off so that we could coordinate it from there.

CHAIRPERSON: Yes.

MS THOMAS: Because if it was taken directly to Kagiso it would have been a bit of a problem as to where and – ja.

20 **CHAIRPERSON:** Yes.

MS THOMAS: And it would be done, taken and distributed.

CHAIRPERSON: Yes.

MS THOMAS: People would be invited to come and...

CHAIRPERSON: So these parcels or groceries would be

delivered to Ms Mokanyane's house but for – as far as you know for onward delivery to Kagiso, not to stay in the house?

MS THOMAS: Not standing there, no.

CHAIRPERSON: H'm?

MS THOMAS: Not standing at the house, it would go to Kagiso.

CHAIRPERSON: Yes, but what I am asking is whether you are saying the first point ...[intervenes]

10 **MS THOMAS:** Yes, Your Honour.

CHAIRPERSON: ...would be that they would be brought to Ms Mokanyane's house?

MS THOMAS: To the garage.

CHAIRPERSON: To the garage.

MS THOMAS: Yes.

CHAIRPERSON: And then afterwards they would then be taken to Kagiso.

MS THOMAS: Yes, Your Honour.

CHAIRPERSON: To be distributed to the community.

20 **MS THOMAS:** Yes, Your Honour.

CHAIRPERSON: And would this happen around Christmas time December?

MS THOMAS: Yes.

CHAIRPERSON: Festive season?

MS THOMAS: It would happen around Christmas time,

December.

CHAIRPERSON: Yes.

MS THOMAS: Sometimes it would try to be a bit early.

CHAIRPERSON: Yes.

MS THOMAS: Because we normally would finish off at the 15th.

CHAIRPERSON: Yes.

MS THOMAS: So sometimes it would be after – even after the 15th.

10 **CHAIRPERSON:** Yes. Okay and would it be a yearly thing, did it happen every year?

MS THOMAS: Yes, Ms Mokanyane would have this yearly event every year save for the last two years.

CHAIRPERSON: Oh.

MS THOMAS: Due to ill health and the morning of her husband.

CHAIRPERSON: Yes, so Ms Mokanyane would be there for these deliveries?

MS THOMAS: Not for the deliveries, no.

20 **CHAIRPERSON:** Ja but she would know about the arrangement?

MS THOMAS: At times she would not even know.

CHAIRPERSON: Yes.

MS THOMAS: I would be told by Mr Watson let us do this and let us do that.

CHAIRPERSON: Yes.

MS THOMAS: I would indicate to him that okay, I am not sure how many people we are looking for and try and contact the ladies and establish how many people we are looking for – looking at to accommodate.

CHAIRPERSON: Yes.

MS THOMAS: And we would take it from there I would just indicate these are the number of people and whatever is brought, it is not my call.

10 **CHAIRPERSON:** Yes.

MS THOMAS: Whatever is brought is brought and packages would be made.

CHAIRPERSON: Yes. Do you know how these parcels of groceries were taken from Ms Mokanyane's house to Kagiso?

MS THOMAS: No.

CHAIRPERSON: Who took them and so on?

MS THOMAS: No.

CHAIRPERSON: You do not know that?

20 **MS THOMAS:** No.

CHAIRPERSON: Ja and in terms of how they were brought to Ms Mokanyane's house do you know if that was BOSASA?

MS THOMAS: I would be the one that would be called. Mr Agrizzi would indicate that, you know, you would get

this call, just for a day and make sure that somebody is home to take responsibility of these things.

CHAIRPERSON: Yes, yes.

MS THOMAS: And that is it.

CHAIRPERSON: And they would be put into the garage, in the garage?

MS THOMAS: I know that it went into the garage because there is...

CHAIRPERSON: Ja, there was a lot ...[intervenes]

10 **MS THOMAS:** There was no space.

CHAIRPERSON: There is no space.

MS THOMAS: Ja and it would immediately, not immediately but, you know, as soon as possible be taken away.

CHAIRPERSON: Ja, maybe after a few days or something.

MS THOMAS: Not even a few days ...[intervenes]

CHAIRPERSON: Maybe a day.

MS THOMAS: Ja, maybe the next day, I am not sure.

20 **CHAIRPERSON:** Ja, okay. Now did you say – you said it would happen around the festive season, Christmas period.

MS THOMAS: Yes, Christmas period.

CHAIRPERSON: Sometimes a little earlier.

MS THOMAS: A little earlier.

CHAIRPERSON: Ja, like early December.

MS THOMAS: Depending on when Mr Watson would call.

CHAIRPERSON: Yes. Now would it happen like every year? I do not know, I may have asked you this question, I just want to ...[intervenes]

MS THOMAS: Sometimes it would happen year after year and ...[intervenes]

CHAIRPERSON: So sometimes they will skip a year?

MS THOMAS: Sometimes they would skip a year.

CHAIRPERSON: Ja.

10 **MS THOMAS:** But Ms Mokanyane would also then arrange her own ...[intervenes]

CHAIRPERSON: Make her own arrangements?

MS THOMAS: Yes.

CHAIRPERSON: Okay, to give people food.

MS THOMAS: To give. At one time we went and we did a blanket distribution ...[intervenes]

CHAIRPERSON: I am sorry did you say he or she?

MS THOMAS: She.

CHAIRPERSON: Mr Mokanyane, Ms Mokanyane?

20 **MS THOMAS:** She. At one time we did a blanket distribution to the old people.

CHAIRPERSON: Ja.

MS THOMAS: As well as groceries and those kind of things.

CHAIRPERSON: Yes, yes. Now from the time that you

started working for Ms Mokanyane which you said was 1999.

MS THOMAS: Yes.

CHAIRPERSON: To 2019 when she stopped being Minister, for example, are you able to say that maybe most of those years this happened even though it might not have been every year or are you not able to say that?

MS THOMAS: It would happen most of the years.

CHAIRPERSON: Most of the years.

10 **MS THOMAS:** Sometimes it would be in the middle of the year.

CHAIRPERSON: Or sometimes even ...[intervenes]

MS THOMAS: For her birthday.

CHAIRPERSON: Yes.

MS THOMAS: She would take the initiative of instead of spending her birthday, she would spend it with the grannies and the granddads in Kagiso.

CHAIRPERSON: Yes, yes.

20 **MS THOMAS:** And that would also be in the middle of the year.

CHAIRPERSON: Yes.

MS THOMAS: For her birthday.

CHAIRPERSON: Yes. And when it happened in the middle of the year maybe for her birthday would BOSASA have been involved in providing parcels or...?

MS THOMAS: Not to my knowledge, no.

CHAIRPERSON: Not to your knowledge, that would be a separate arrangement for herself.

MS THOMAS: She would do it by herself.

CHAIRPERSON: Okay, okay.

MS THOMAS: And – ja.

CHAIRPERSON: Okay but the Christmas period ones that involved BOSASA?

MS THOMAS: Not always.

10 **CHAIRPERSON:** It would not always but most of the years.

MS THOMAS: Not always BOSASA.

CHAIRPERSON: Not always BOSASA?

MS THOMAS: No. She would do some of these things.

CHAIRPERSON: Ja. No, no, I accept that.

MS THOMAS: Yes, ja.

CHAIRPERSON: I am just talking about those that were done by BOSASA.

MS THOMAS: Not every year, no.

20 **CHAIRPERSON:** H'm?

MS THOMAS: Not all the time.

CHAIRPERSON: Yes.

MS THOMAS: It would - we would wait for Mr Watson, if he calls. If he does not call ...[intervenens]

CHAIRPERSON: But you said most of the years?

MS THOMAS: Most of it, ja.

CHAIRPERSON: Okay, no, that helps clarify things for me. Do you have anything arising?

ADV NOTSHE SC: No, Chair, I do not.

CHAIRPERSON: Okay.

ADV NOTSHE SC: I am not sure if the legal representatives want to...

CHAIRPERSON: Do you wish to re-examine or are you fine?

10 **ADV MANALA:** No, not at this stage, Chair.

CHAIRPERSON: Not at this stage, okay. Ms Thomas...

MS THOMAS: Your Honour?

CHAIRPERSON: Thank you very much for coming to assist the Commission, thank you.

MS THOMAS: Pleasure.

CHAIRPERSON: We are done, you are now excused. Thank you very much.

MS THOMAS: My pleasure. Thank you, Sir.

20 **CHAIRPERSON:** Okay, alright. Okay. That is all you had, Mr Notshe for today?

ADV NOTSHE SC: That is the only evidence we have.

CHAIRPERSON: Okay, we are going to adjourn and just for the public, there will not be a sitting tomorrow.

ADV NOTSHE SC: Yes.

CHAIRPERSON: But we will sit on Wednesday, Thursday

and Friday.

ADV NOTSHE SC: Yes.

CHAIRPERSON: As things presently stand, on Wednesday we will hear Ms Gina Peters' evidence as well as after her I will hear the evidence of Ms Seipati Dlamini who is a former Chief Financial Officer of the Department of – I think Agriculture in the Free State and then on Thursday we will hear the evidence – we will have Mokanyane back to deal with certain matters that have
10 arisen since she gave evidence.

ADV NOTSHE SC: Yes.

CHAIRPERSON: And then on Friday I will hear the evidence of Mr Vincent Smith from parliament.

ADV NOTSHE SC: Yes.

CHAIRPERSON: We adjourn.

INQUIRY ADJOURNS TO 2 SEPTEMBER 2020