

## METSIMAHOLO ANCYL LEADERS APOLOGISE TO MAGASHULE

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ANC Youth League (ANCYL) members who called for the removal of the executive mayor of Metsimaholo Local Municipality, Brutus Mahlaku, have dumped the Regime Change leadership which sponsored their activities and pledged their support to Mahlaku and Free State premier, Ace Magashule.

The Weekly can reveal that ANCYL leaders who participated in recent marches against Mahlaku, whom they accused of corruption, and orchestrating the merger of Metsimaholo and Ngwathe local municipalities held a secret meeting with Magashule; and have since pledged their support for him to lead the ANC in the Free State.

A source who attended the meeting said the group apologised profusely to Magashule for undermining him and Mahlaku.

“They met briefly with the premier, while he was attending the last PTT meeting in Parys, and promised to support his nomination as the chairperson of the ANC. They confirmed that they were used by certain leaders with nefarious intentions and asked the premier to ensure that the municipality puts in place programmes that will benefit the youth in the area.”

There has been simmering tensions between Mahlaku and the ANCYL in the region. The ANCYL feels isolated by Mahlaku and the council.

They have also accused the ANC secretary in the region, Moshe Tladi, of side-lining them from party programmes. Tladi has promised that his office will patiently wait for the outcomes of the investigation into the corruption allegations levelled against Mahlaku by the ANCYL.

The protests were largely instigated by former COPE members, Lucky Malebo and Seabe Maboye as well as Regime Change leader, Mpho Ramakatsa.

The ANC has slammed attacks against Mahlaku and Magashule, and called on its branches to protect their leaders. Mahlaku has cooperated with all the law enforcement agencies investigating the allegations against him.

[Source: [www.theweekly.co.za](http://www.theweekly.co.za)]