

27 July 2020

## **Press release**

The Public Commissioner was present today at the Appeal Chamber, while continued the judicial review of the appeal against the Decision no. 103/2019, of the Independent Qualification Commission, for the subject of re-evaluation Mrs. Donika Prela, magistrate /prosecutor, at that time lead of the Prosecution Office of the First Instance Court for Serious Crimes.

The adjudication panel, while verified the presence of the parties, indicated the absentia of the subject of re-evaluation in the session. The subject of the re-evaluation, through her spouse, submitted to the adjudication panel the request to the adjournment of the hearing due to health issues, together with a medical report for up to 14-days leave. In the contents of the request, which was read by the presiding judge, the subject of the re-evaluation informed that she was also evaluating the possibility to appoint a legal representative not to effectuate, according to her, the adjournment of further hearings, while also invited the panel to consider the fact that August is the month of annual leave entitlement for magistrates.

The Public Commissioner, when asked by the presiding judge related to his position regarding the request of the subject of re-evaluation, expressed his readiness to continue the trial anytime that the adjudication panel deems necessary.

The adjudication panel, in common deliberation, decided to administer the request of the subject of re-evaluation, together with the medical report and to adjourn the hearing session until September 03, 2020, at 10:00 a.m.

Pursuant to point 1, Article 16 of the Regulation "On the Activity of the Institution of Public Commissioners", the appeal and elements of the case are published on the official website of this institution: <u>http://ikp.al/ankime/</u>

The Institution of Public Commissioners has been established and operates under Article 179/b and the Annex of the Constitution of the Republic of Albania and Law No. 84/2016, "On the Transitional Re-evaluation of Judges and Prosecutors in the Republic of Albania".

The Public Commissioners represent the public interest during the transitional re-evaluation process of judges and prosecutors in the Republic of Albania.

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