

PRESS STATEMENT

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

MCK CONDEMNS THE ARREST OF MR EMMANUEL MALEVE

NAIROBI- The Media Council of Kenya expresses deep concern over the recent arrest of Mr Emmanuel Maleve, an accredited journalist based in Kitui (Accreditation Number MCK0110388), by officers from the Directorate of Criminal Investigations (DCI). The arrest, which occurred in Kitui town, is reported to have been carried out under unclear directives.

The circumstances surrounding Mr. Maleve's arrest remain opaque. No official statements were recorded at either the Kitui Police Station or the local DCI offices, raising serious questions about the legality and transparency of the process.

This action presents a troubling attack on press freedom, particularly as it coincides with the global observance of World Press Freedom Day 2025, a time dedicated to reaffirming the vital role of free and independent media and the obligation of governments to uphold this freedom.

Mr Maleve's rights appear to have been violated through the arbitrary and unprocedural arrest, resulting in intimidation and harassment.

The Media Council of Kenya is calling upon the Directorate of Criminal Investigations and the Inspector General of the National Police Service to immediately investigate the circumstances leading to his arrest and take appropriate action.

The Council stands in unwavering solidarity with Mr Maleve and all affected journalists and reaffirms its commitment to defending media freedom and safeguarding the rights and privileges of journalists throughout the country.

Issued in Nairobi on 2nd May 2025

For and on behalf of the Media Council of Kenya

DAVID OMWOYO OMWOYO, MBS

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER & SECRETARY TO THE COUNCIL