

PRESS STATEMENT

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

MCK Calls for Investigation Into Attacks on Journalists by Kilifi County Government Staff

The Media Council of Kenya has received reports of the assault of three journalists based in Kilifi County while covering a protest against the County Government on 23rd December 2022. The Council condemns the atrocious acts meted against journalists as they are a direct violation of press freedom as espoused in articles 34 and 35 of the Kenyan Constitution.

The Council calls for swift investigations and prosecution of the perpetrators alleged to be staff attached to the Governor's office on the attacks against Mr Elias Yaa working with The Star Newspaper, Mr Daniel Peshu and Ms Maureen Ongala of Daily Nation at the Karisa Maitha grounds.

The case involving the staff who were accompanying the County's Chief of Staff has been reported at the Kilifi Police Station under the OB number 33/23/12/2022.

MCK wishes to inform the perpetrators and the public that any attacks on journalists is a criminal act and is against the journalists' rights and privileges protected by law under the 2010 Kenyan Constitution and the Media Council of Kenya Act, 2013. On the same breath, we advise that any grievances concerning the behavior and practice of journalists be reported to the Media Complaints Commission.

In the absence of decisive action, the Media Council of Kenya will seek private prosecution of those found culpable.



David Omwoyo Omwoyo, MBS

Chief Executive Officer and Secretary to the Council