

## PRESS STATEMENT

Media Contact

Jerry Abuga | Lorine Achieng

Media Council of Kenya

Tel: +254-20-2737058 | +254-723 99 91 58 | +254-723 79 50 20

Email: [communications@mediacouncil.or.ke](mailto:communications@mediacouncil.or.ke)

Thursday, 24<sup>th</sup> March 2022

### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## ARREST GOONS WHO ATTACKED JOURNALISTS AT ODM PARTY HEADQUARTERS

**NAIROBI**, 24<sup>th</sup> March 2022- The Media Council of Kenya wants the police to immediately arrest suspects who are known to have spearheaded the attack on journalists Moses Nyamori of *The Standard* and Luke Awich of *The Star* while covering a public rally at Orange House earlier today.

The Council is concerned at political party orchestrated violence against journalists and lack of investigations on such and is calling upon the Inspector General of Police Mr Hillary Mutyambai to arrest the perpetrators.

The two journalists were singled out days after stories published under their bylines on Thursday, 17<sup>th</sup> March 2022 attracted verbal attacks and threats from specific party officials who had been quoted in the story.

Profiling of journalists by leaders and supporters of political parties goes against Articles 34 and 35 of the Constitution on freedom of media and access to information.

The Media Council of Kenya calls on the ODM leadership led by its leader Mr Raila Odinga who was hosting today's event to disown such acts of violence against the media and commit to non-interference in the work of media workers in all its activities henceforth.

The Council calls on the Independent Electoral Boundaries Commission (IEBC) and the Office of the Registrar of Political Parties to take stern action against parties and aspirants that condone all forms of violence and especially violence against the media.

While the work of the media is subject to scrutiny and feedback, any complaints on the violation of the Code of Conduct for the Practice of Journalism in Kenya should be reported to the Media Complaints Commissions which is legally mandated to adjudicate on the same.

The Council has been leading in initiatives to address safety and protection of journalists during the electioneering period and has mobilised a team comprising senior editorial managers from mainstream media to coordinate the intervention.



**David Omwoyo Omwoyo**

Chief Executive Officer & Secretary to the Council