INDEPENDENT ELECTORAL AND BOUNDARIES COMMISSION



MEDIA RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

NAIROBI, KENYA: JUNE 20, 2022

SUBJECT: CAMPAIGN RELATED VIOLENCE AT JACARANDA GROUNDS.

The Commission's attention has been drawn to the political campaign related violence witnessed at Jacaranda grounds yesterday 19th June, 2022.

The Commission condemns the perpetration of the shameful acts of violence that endangered the lives and property of Kenyans.

The Commission wishes to remind candidates, political parties, supporters of candidates, the Government and indeed all Kenyans that they have a duty to adhere to the Electoral Code of conduct and to shun violence, intimidation and reprisals that may compromise the conduct of a free, fair and peaceful election, and ultimately jeopardise the security of the country.

The Commission, under ordinary circumstances, would have promptly investigated and summoned the suspected perpetrators of the heinous violence. However, owing to judicial orders in <u>Constitutional Petition number 073 of 2022 Hon. Sabina Chege vs the Independent Electoral & Boundaries Commission</u>, the High Court declared the Electoral Code of Conduct Enforcement Committee unconstitutional, thereby withdrawing from the Commission the constitutional and statutory power to enforce the said Code. In the premises, and as provided by Section 21 of the Election Offences Act, it is only the Office of the Director of Public prosecutions (ODPP) that has power to order investigations and to prosecute offences under the Act.

Therefore, the Commission urges the ODPP to cause investigation and prosecution of those responsible for acts of violence witnessed at Jacaranda in contravention of the Code.

The Commission also calls upon all candidates and Political Parties to conduct peaceful campaigns and adhere to their campaign schedules as submitted to the Returning Officers.

