

PRESS STATEMENT

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

ADVISORY TO JOURNALISTS INTENDING TO VIE FOR POLITICAL OFFICE

Pursuant to section 6 (k) of the Media Council Act, 2013 which mandates the Council to establish media standards and regulate and monitor compliance with the media standards and Clauses 3, 4 and 5 of the Code of Conduct for the Practice of Journalism in Kenya which provide that a journalist/ media practitioner discharges their journalist duties with utmost professionalism, independence, integrity and accountability free of any conflict of interest, the Media Council of Kenya (MCK) hereby cautions journalists, media practitioners and media enterprises against using their offices and official media platforms for political gain.

The Council advises that any person subject to the Media Council Act who becomes a political candidate or intends to be employed or campaign for a particular political party must step aside from journalistic practice. This will ensure adherence to the Act and avoidance of any real, imagined, or perceived conflict of interest. Any person subject to the Act who engages in political campaigns while still in office risks violation of the law.

Following our continued media monitoring, it has been established that some journalists, media practitioners and media enterprises are contravening this provision. The MCK has noted with concern possible violation of the Act, and hereby advises them to refrain from violating the provisions of the law.

The Council will take appropriate enforcement action against any journalists, media practitioners and media enterprises who are found to be in breach of the Act.



David Omwoyo Omwoyo

Chief Executive Officer & Secretary to the Council