



INSTITUTION OF SURVEYORS OF KENYA

FOR IMMEDIATE PRESS RELEASE

4th October, 2024

INSTITUTION OF SURVEYORS OF KENYA (ISK) FIRMLY CONDEMNS THE ATTACK ON SURVEYORS IN KATANI, MAVOKO ON 3RD OCTOBER 2024 AND CALLS FOR SPEEDY INVESTIGATION AND THE ARREST OF THE CULPRITS

The Institution of Surveyors of Kenya (ISK) is deeply saddened to report a violent incident involving some of our members who narrowly escaped death following an attack in Katani, Mavoko while undertaking survey work. This unfortunate event highlights the growing insecurity that Surveyors continue to face while carrying out their lawful professional duties within Machakos County.

The Institution strongly condemns this violent attack which led to panga cuts, a vehicle being burnt to ashes and survey equipment being stolen by a group of goons riding on motor bikes. This action has left our colleagues injured, traumatized and raises serious concerns about the safety of surveyors while working in the field. It is important to note that the Section 38 of the Survey Act, Cap 299, criminalizes any action undertaken by anyone who prevents a Surveyor from accessing any property for their work. Any person who wilfully obstructs or hinders any surveyor, or any assistant or servant of such surveyor, in the performance of any duty or the exercise of any power under the Survey Act shall be guilty of an offence and be liable to a fine or to imprisonment or to both.

While we are deeply disturbed by this incident, it is not the first time that Surveyors have faced hostilities while working in areas such as Katani. It is shocking that land owners who have legally acquired their land cannot access them because of goons, whom we believe are well known to the authorities and who work under the direction of local leaders. We question why the Government cannot pronounce itself on such people. The role of Government is to protect its citizens and the Constitution guarantees rights to property, which must be respected and protected.

ISK calls upon the Government, law enforcement agencies, and the public to support our efforts to ensure the safety and well-being of our members. We believe that all surveyors, regardless of their location, have the right to work without fear of violence. We also appeal to members of the public to support and cooperate with surveyors as they carry out their work, which is vital for the economic growth and development of our country. ISK demands that the County Commissioner, Machakos and the Inspector General of Police immediately conduct thorough investigation and bring the perpetrators to of this violence to justice.

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About ISK

The Institution of Surveyors of Kenya (ISK) is the professional body that brings together professionals who provide services in the Land built sector. The professionals fall within eight major disciplines of the surveying profession namely Land Surveying, Valuation, Building Surveying, Land Administration Management, Engineering Surveying, Geospatial Information Management, Estate Agents and Property Management. Our membership of over 6,500 is widely spread across the Country.

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