
MEDIA STATEMENT ON THE COWARDLY KILLING OF MR NCEBA NCUNYANA BY FACELESS CRIMINALS

12 October 2023

The South African Local Government Association (SALGA) has learnt with shock that, yet another Municipal official has lost his life in the hands of faceless criminals. SALGA would like to express its sadness at the passing of Mr. Nceba Ncunyana who worked as the General Manager for infrastructure in the Buffalo City Metro Municipality.

His untimely death comes at a time when SALGA has consistently called upon the security cluster to step up its work to bring to justice all those already apprehended for these heinous acts and speedily investigate these killings.

We wish to reiterate SALGA President's concern on the increase of the number of these killings. The killing of municipal councillors and officials is on the increase in South Africa. Not only does this barbaric act represents a direct attack on our hard-won democracy but it also puts the local government sector in an untenable position where qualified and competent South Africans will be hesitant to avail their services to the people our people.

On behalf of the local government fraternity, SALGA Provincial Chairperson, Cllr. Mesuli Ngqondwana would like to express his condolences to his family, colleagues, and friends, at this difficult time. His tragic death is a significant loss to the local government sector as he was responsible for implementing infrastructure projects that changed the face of the city in recent years.

While the motive remains unknown it is a public knowledge that not only did Mr Ncunyana receive threats of various kinds, but there were also several attempt on his life.

In our view as SALGA, it cannot be that week after week we convey condolences for public representatives and officials who have been killed based on choosing to be servants of the people. An act of violence or even to the extent of killing municipal councillors and/or senior managers should be viewed as a direct attack on our hard-won democracy.

While the suspects are still at large and the police are still investigating, SALGA condemns the killings in the strongest possible terms and hopes that the perpetrators will very soon be brought to justice.

END

Issued by: South African Local Government Association

Sandiswa Pholo email: spholo@salga.org.za Mobile: 084 888 9514