
26 October 2021

LPC PRESS STATEMENT

The Legal Practice Council (“LPC”) notes with concern the xenophobic attacks on Advocate Simba Chitando who is involved in a court case regarding the issue of Zimbabwean Special Dispensation permits issued by the Department of Home Affairs. The LPC does not condone any xenophobic statements against any of our members.

Legal practitioners should be allowed to fulfil their mandate of providing professional, principled *inter-alia* impartial, legal representation to the public without fear or favour.

The country is still reeling from the effect of xenophobic attacks on foreign nationals that took place in the recent past. These attacks have resulted in loss of lives, displacement, destruction of property, loss of the source of livelihoods and insecurity.

The LPC strongly condemns all instances of threats, attacks, hate speech and incitements to violence against anyone based on ethnicity or any other ground. The LPC understands that this is a sensitive issue and encourages the public to allow the court process to run its course through the impartial and transparent judicial processes based on the legal framework provided by the South African laws.

Further, members of the public are strongly encouraged to report instances of xenophobic attacks in any form to the South African Police Service (SAPS).

The End

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