



May 04, 2020

**THE DIRECTOR GENERAL
CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIONS DEPARTMENT
POLICE HEADQUARTERS
CANTONMENTS
ACCRA**

Dear Sir

**PUBLICATION OF FALSE NEWS – SECTION 208 OF ACT 29
CRIMINAL COMPLAINT AGAINST KWAME BAFFOE ALIAS “ABRONYE DC”**

I have been instructed by His Excellency, John Dramani Mahama, the Former President of Ghana and the current Flagbearer of the National Democratic Congress (NDC), to formally lodge on his behalf, criminal complaints against a certain Kwame Baffoe alias “**Abronye DC**”, a Ghanaian citizen and a prominent member of the New Patriotic Party (NPP). I understand he is the Chairman for Bono Regional Branch of the NPP.

My instructions are that in a recording of a TV programme on Net 2 TV, Madina, Accra, which has been circulating on various social media platforms, including Facebook and WhatsApp, Abronye DC made certain false claims, alleging a plot masterminded by the NDC and His Excellency, John Dramani Mahama, to assassinate some NPP personalities including he, Abronye DC, himself. On the programme, Abronye DC announced to the general public that some NPP personalities would be assassinated by NDC hirelings who would be wearing NPP T-shirts, and that these hirelings would be doing the bidding of Former President John Mahama. On the same programme, Abronye DC stated that President John Mahama ‘killed President John Evans Atta-Mills’. I enclose, as part of this complaint, a copy of the video recording of the said programme.

His Excellency, John Dramani Mahama, has firmly instructed me to say that the allegations are, of course, false; and for the avoidance of doubt, would like to state that neither the NDC nor he has planned to hire, hired or cause to be hired, or instructed any person or persons to murder or assassinate anybody. Regarding the rather irreverent and despicable allegation that he killed the late President John Evans Atta-Mills, he would not dignify it with any answer, except to say that the allegation could only have come from an unhinged mind.

My further instructions are that this is not the first time the same person, Abronye DC, has used similar platforms to denigrate and make scurrilous, outrageous and scandalous allegations against the NDC and Former President Mahama and many other personalities within the NDC, which is the largest opposition party in Ghana. To date, nobody has called the said Abronye DC to order. Abronye DC is a prominent member of the ruling NPP, and while his false, outrageous and inflammatory accusations are clearly politically motivated, they are also likely to expose my client and members of NDC to attacks from Abronye’ DCs

political party sympathisers. By reason also of his profile, he has, by his false allegations, pitted the two largest political parties in the country against each other in the context of spurious allegations of violent crime. This has real potential of disturbing the public peace.

My final instructions are therefore to kindly request you to use your good offices to cause investigations to be conducted into the Abronye DC's false allegations and their publication. In lodging this complaint, I would respectfully like to draw your attention to Section 208 of the Criminal Offences Act, 1960 (Act 29), which reads as follows:

“ 208. Publication of false news

- (1) A person who publishes or reproduces a statement, rumour or report which is likely to cause fear and alarm to the public or to disturb the public peace knowing or having reason to believe that the statement, rumour or report is false commits a misdemeanour.

- (2) It is not a defence to a charge under subsection (1) that the person charged did not know or did not have reason to believe that the statement, rumour or report was false, unless it is proved that, prior to the publication, that person took reasonable measures to verify the accuracy of the statement, rumour or report.”

Kindly let me know if you require any further information or assistance from me or from the Office of Former President John Mahama on this matter. I may be reached on **0202000201**.

Your faithfully


Tony Lithur

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1. **His Excellency John Dramani Mahama**
Former President of the Republic of Ghana

 2. **The Inspector General of Police**
Ghana Police Service
Police Headquarters
Accra

 3. **The General Secretary**
National Democratic Congress
Party Headquarters
Adabraka – Accra