



Independent Electoral and Boundaries Commission

PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

SUBJECT: IEBC CONDEMNS ELECTION-RELATED VIOLENCE AND CLARIFIES LAWFUL ACCESS TO POLLING AND TALLYING AREAS

Nairobi, Kenya: Thursday, 27th November, 2025

The Independent Electoral and Boundaries Commission (IEBC) notes with grave concern the incidents of violence, intimidation, and disruption reported in parts of the country during today's by-elections, and **condemns in the strongest terms possible the acts of violence, hooliganism, and lawlessness experienced in some electoral areas.** These actions violate **Article 81(e)** of the Constitution of Kenya, 2010, which requires that elections be free from violence, intimidation, improper influence, or corruption, and undermine the principles of **Article 86** on the conduct of simple, accurate, verifiable, secure, accountable, and transparent elections.

Such conduct further contravenes the **Elections Act, 2011**, the **Election Offences Act, 2016**, and the **Elections (General) Regulations, 2012**, which prohibit violence, obstruction of election officials, interference with voting and counting processes, and any behaviour that disrupts the orderly conduct of elections. Reports suggesting the involvement of political actors and public figures in actions that heighten tensions are especially concerning. Such behaviour is unlawful, irresponsible, and unacceptable in a democratic society.

As voting concludes, the Commission reiterates that access to polling stations during counting, and to tallying centres during verification, will strictly follow the law. Pursuant to the **Elections Act, 2011** and **Regulations 62, 63, 67, 79, 83, and 87**, only the following persons are permitted access:

- IEBC officials on duty
- Accredited party and candidate agents
- Duly accredited observers
- Assigned security personnel
- Accredited media (where applicable)



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Tallying Centres are protected areas, and **no unauthorised persons will be admitted.**

The Commission **urges and calls upon** all security officers assigned to IEBC duties, as well as those deployed generally in the by-election areas, to remain on high alert, vigilant, and responsive in preventing and managing any acts of violence, lawlessness, or disruptions, including during the crucial phases of counting, tallying, and declaration of results.

In equal measure, the Commission calls upon the **National Police Service** and the **Directorate of Criminal Investigations (DCI)** to investigate all reported incidents of violence and ensure that individuals found culpable are arrested and held accountable in accordance with the law.

Additionally, the **IEBC Elections Code of Conduct Committee** will take action on any complaints relating to breaches of the Elections Code of Conduct, the Elections Act, and all other laws governing elections in Kenya.

The Commission commends the citizens of Kenya for maintaining peace and order in most areas throughout the voting period. The few incidents of violence should not overshadow the commendable commitment demonstrated by the majority of voters in exercising their democratic right to elect leaders of their choice.

IEBC remains steadfast in concluding the remaining steps of the electoral process in full compliance with the Constitution and the laws of Kenya. The public will be informed of the final results in due course.

Erastus Edung Etheke, HSC
Chairperson, IEBC

For more information, contact:

Department of Communications and Corporate Affairs

www.iebc.or.ke | info@iebc.or.ke

     | **@IEBCkenya**

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