

**VICTIMS OF UNLAWFUL DEMOLISHING EXERCISE BY THE JOINT EFFUTU MUNICIPAL
AND POLICE AT GOMOA PRETU AKYIR (WINNERBA JUNCTION), CENTRAL REGION
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January 30, 2023

**The Commissioner
Commission on Human Rights and Administrative Justice
Head Office
Accra**

Attn: Mr. Joseph Whittal Esq.

Dear Sir,

**COMPLAINT: INVESTIGATE ALHAJI KASSIM ZUBAIRU, EFFUTU POLICE & EFFUTU
PLANNING OFFICERS FOR ABUSE OF PUBLIC OFFICE AND ARBITRARY USE OF FORCE TO
CAUSE HARM TO PROPERTIES.**

We write as deeply concerned owners of Gomoa Pretu Akyir Land and residents of Gomoa Pretu Akyir to petition your high office to institute an investigation into the abuse of state power, abuse of office, arbitrary use of state power in the unlawful demolition exercise conducted by a joint Effutu Municipal Assembly and Eftutu Police led by Alhaji Kassim Zubairu, the Chief Executive Officer of Effutu Municipal Assembly; the Effutu Divisional Commander of Police, Jeff Darko; the Municipal Planning Officer, Isaac Adoa; the Regional Planning Officer, Mr. Mantey Kolley without any Court Order and or notice to the residents.

This petition is necessitated by the failure of the Central Reginal Security Council and the Central Regional Minister for taken any action to bring the perpetrators of this unlawful act since September 2022 hence empowering them to continue to attack and terrorize residents and businesses in the area.

The facts:

1. Respectfully, Sir, in the morning of September 16, 2022 some officers from the Planning Office of Effutu Municipal Assembly came to Gomoa Pretu Akyir, to write **“Produce Permit: September 16, 2022 to September 23, 2022”** on some residential buildings, business establishments and fence walls in the area.
2. That in the afternoon of the same day the said produce permit was written, Alhaji Kassim Zubairu led a group of over 500 armed civilians, about 5 armed Police Officers

with an earth moving machine and pulled down the structures worth millions of Ghana cedis on which the produce permit were written.

3. That the MCE branded some of the house owners and land owners as land guards while ordered them to be killed leading to fleeing of some four of the residents in the area before the demolition exercise.
4. That even after the exercise without any reprisal attacks, the MCE in many Radio interviews called the residents land guards and armed robbers while sending his men who came threatening to kill them if they dare step foot in their houses.
5. That after the said demolishing, and the life-threatening situation, the some of the victims went to three (3) police stations in the area to report the matter but they were denied any official complaints and or statement till date.
6. That the Police team was led by Andrews Oduro popularly known as May Weather and other notable personalities including the Effutu NPP Constituency Chairman; Supi Kofi Kwayera; the former Effutu NPP Constituency Chairman, Kofi Tutu; Municipal Engineer, Mr. Yeboah; and William Digatiah.
7. That prior to these unlawful, unjustified and provocative attacks by the MCE, the Police and their accomplices, no prior notice were given to the occupants of the area except on September 13, 2022 when officials from the Effutu Municipal Assembly approached Mr. Ali Mustapha Harun (who the MCE has lost a criminal court case to on that same day) in the area demanding for his building permit. Mr. Harun informed the Officers that he, like many others in the area had obtained his permit from the Gomoa Central District Assembly and that the said permit was at home in Agona Swedru. He then asked that he is given up to the following day to produce the said permit but the officials told him that the area is under the Effutu Municipal Assembly and they will never accept any other permit from another Assembly hence demanding to write produce permit on his wall which he resisted.

One of the men then pulled his phone saying he was going to call the MCE, Alhaji Zubairu to report his resistance. Mr. Harun added that after they left and about an hour the Regional Planning Officer, Mr. Mantey Kolley called him that he, Mr. Harun has been reported to him for preventing his men from writing produce permit on his wall which Mr. Harun told the Regional Planning Office his side of the story and later sent him copies of receipt and the building permit via WhatsApp when he got home in the evening.

8. Also, a day before the said demolishing exercise, the Planning Officers of the Gomoa Central, Gomoa West and Effutu Municipal Assembly visited the area but never engaged any of the residents during their visit.

Respectfully Sir, we consider the action of these state officials as abuse of state power, breach of administrative procedures, abuse of office, arbitrary use of force and unprovoked attack on the good people of Gomoa-Ajumako which threaten the peace and security of the area.

Alhaji Kassim Zubairu ignored his Assembly's administrative instruction by not giving the property owners the opportunity to produce their permit for inspection as the Effutu Municipal Assembly's own time allotted for the property owners to submit their permit for inspection, thereby step siding the laid down administrative procedure and without any provocation and in show of power, arbitrary and capricious use of force under his instructions and supervision caused some residential and commercial properties valued Millions of Ghana Cedis to be demolished including the proposed Gomoa Central land Secretariat office, contrary to the rules of natural justice.

Accordingly, we write under Section 12 of the Commission on Human Rights and Administrative Justice Act 1993 (Act 456) to humbly request you to invoke your jurisdiction and powers under Section 7 of Act 456 to investigate the MCE, Municipal Police Commander, Municipal Planning Officer and all their accomplices engaged this unlawful and life-threatening act and where they are found guilty, necessary punishment are applied to serve as deterrent to other public office holders.

Please accept the assurances of my highest regards and utmost consideration.

Yours faithfully,

1. Mustapha Ali Harun (Landlord)



2. Mr. Myles Mills Prah (Property Owner)



3. Alice Malatey (Property Owner)



4. Bonnat Nti Mensah (Property Owner) B. N. MENSAH
5. Antwi Kofi Bosiako (Property Owner) 
6. Kofi Karikari (Property Owner) 
7. Albert Kobina Sam (Property Owner)  
8. Tajudeen Ibrahim Larry (Property Owner) 
9. Shion Williams (Property Owner) 
10. For: Theophilus Barnabas Kobina Acquah 
11. Crosby Omano Essel (Property Owner) 

CC:
His Excellency
The President of the Republic of Ghana
Office of the President
Jubilee House, Accra