



PRESS STATEMENT

Nairobi, Kenya · 5th August, 2026.

UGM DEMANDS JUSTICE FOR ERICK OTIENO AND AN END TO POLICE IMPUNITY

The United Green Movement (UGM) Party mourns with the family, friends and fellow riders of the late **Erick Otieno**, the 19-year-old boda boda rider who died after being held at Muthaiga Police Station, following his arrest over what his family describes as a minor traffic offence. He was taken into custody on a Saturday; by the following Tuesday he was dead. His family collected him battered and struggling to stand, and a post-mortem has since established he died of fatal internal injuries consistent with blunt-force trauma, a finding that only deepens the outrage over reports that money was allegedly demanded from him by the Police. A young man left home to earn an honest living and was returned to his family as a corpse.

These reports must be tested fully, independently and without interference. Erick Otieno held rights the State was sworn to protect – to life, dignity, freedom from torture and humane treatment in custody, under **Articles 26, 28, 29, 49 and 51** of the Constitution. His family deserves the truth; Kenya deserves accountability.

This is not an isolated tragedy. It is a warning that compensation for victims of police violence, while necessary, can never substitute for justice, and that transferring rogue officers from one station to another will never end impunity.

Kenya needs the urgent transformation of its police into a service for the Wananchi, not a force feared by the very people it is constitutionally bound to protect. **Article 244** of the Constitution demands a police service that upholds the rule of law and respects human rights; what befell Erick is a betrayal of that command. President Ruto has failed to hold Interior Cabinet Secretary Kipchumba Murkomen politically accountable for the failures in the Interior docket. A government that shields the Interior from accountability has chosen the impunity of its officers over the lives of its citizens.

The UGM Party demands:-

- That the **Independent Policing Oversight Authority (IPOA)** immediately open and conclude an independent investigation into Erick Otieno's death, with its findings made public.
- That all officers involved be identified; that *station records, signal logs, CCTV footage and medical records* be secured; and that officers implicated face **lawful disciplinary and criminal action, with suspension, not transfer, pending the outcome**.
- That the **National Police Service** guarantee protection for the family, witnesses and any whistle-blowers who assist the investigation.
- That the **Ministry of Interior and CS Murkomen** account publicly for the measures being taken to end extortion, torture and deaths in custody.
- That the **Director of Public Prosecutions** immediately directs a comprehensive investigation as empowered by the Constitution and publicly reports on the outcome.
- The full implementation of the **Maraga Police Reforms Taskforce report**, so that oversight and accountability become law and practice, not paper promises.
- Justice, protection and support for the family of Erick Otieno, and for every family the State has robbed of a child.

As Greens, UGM stands for a return to **Ukatiba**, human dignity and the rule of law. Our presidential candidate, former Chief Justice David Maraga, is the **father of the very police reforms** this government has flatly failed to implement. As a green government-in-waiting, UGM will reset, restore and rebuild policing on a constitutional, citizen-centred and human-rights foundation, so that no family ever again buries a child killed by those paid to protect them. There can be no security for all when a 19-year-old can die after an encounter with those entrusted to protect him. We therefore urge all Kenyans to reject impunity, vote out President Ruto, elect David Maraga, and demand a police service that protects life rather than takes it.

Justice for Erick Otieno. Reform the Police. Protect Every Kenyan.

Katto Wambua

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