



**LAW SOCIETY**  
OF SOUTH AFRICA

**MEDIA RELEASE**

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For immediate release

**LAW SOCIETY CALLS FOR RESPECT FOR HUMAN RIGHTS AND RULE OF  
LAW IN ZIMBABWE ON RELEASE OF ELECTION RESULTS**

The Law Society of South Africa (LSSA) calls for the speedy release of the results of the parliamentary and presidential elections in Zimbabwe. The LSSA also urges all the parties involved in the elections, both in Zimbabwe and in a monitoring capacity, to ensure that human rights, the rule of law and transparent electoral procedures are respected and protected.

'The people of Zimbabwe must be assured of a democratically elected government and authorities that protect and promote human rights and the rule of law. The Zimbabwean authorities must desist with the reported harassment, attacks and arrest of electoral workers and officials, lawyers, journalists and members of opposition parties,' say LSSA Co-Chairpersons Vincent Saldanha and CP Fourie. 'Lawyers must be assured of having access to their clients. People who have been attacked and injured by the authorities must have access to their lawyers and must be permitted to pursue criminal charges against illegal arrest and harassment. Also, the authorities must respect court judgments and rulings in this regard,' say Mr Saldanha and Mr Fourie.

The LSSA offers its support to Zimbabwean lawyers, the Law Society of Zimbabwe and Zimbabwe Lawyers for Human Rights during this critical time in the election process.

Editor's note:

The Law Society of South Africa brings together its six constituent members – the Cape Law Society, the KwaZulu-Natal Law Society, the Law Society of the Free State, the Law Society of the Northern Provinces, the Black Lawyers Association and the National Association of Democratic Lawyers – in representing South Africa's 17 800 attorneys and 3 500 candidate attorneys.

In Afrikaans items, please refer to the 'Prokureursorde van Suid-Afrika'.

***ISSUED ON BEHALF OF THE CO-CHAIRPERSONS  
OF THE LAW SOCIETY OF SOUTH AFRICA***

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