



## PPRC PRESS RELEASE 11<sup>th</sup> August, 2022

The Political Parties Registration Commission (hereinafter called "the Commission"), is appalled by the violence that erupted in some parts of the Country, on Wednesday the 10th August 2022, that led to the loss of precious Sierra Leonean lives, including those of innocent Security Personnel, caught in the line of duty and the wanton destruction of both private property and critical State infrastructures

The Commission notes with concern the following:

a). The strong affiliation of the Malcontents that incited these violence, with certain Politicians, evidenced by the contents of their social media postings.

b). The deafening silence of usually very loud voices, both in the civic space and the Political landscape, in the face of heinous threats to national security and peace, that preceded the insurrection. This seeming indifference is frightening and could be exploited by perpetrators of the violence, in luring the gullible public into believing that, their proposed dastardly acts, have the tacit approval of critical opinion leaders.

c). The call ON BOTH SIDES to exercise restraint AND DIALOGUE, by our Moral Guarantors(emphasis the Commission's).Much as the Commission, as all well meaning Sierra Leoneans, appreciates and applauds this call, the identity of the OTHER SIDE in this Situation, to dialogue with, is in issue. All legitimate and legally constituted Bodies in the Country, have distanced themselves from those calls for carnage. Government in this context, may be at a loss, as to who the OTHER SIDE is, to dialogue with,

The Commission notes and appreciates the Government's show of restraint and their intensive engagements, in trying to dissuade an already indoctrinated and gullible young people, from heeding to those vicious calls.

That said, we implore Government to conduct thorough investigations into the violence and to follow the evidence wherever they lead and adopt appropriate actions within the confines of our laws, to curb this spate of lawlessness, irrespective of Political and social stature.

The very fabric and survival of the State is threatened and Government is obligated to protect the lives and property of its people.

We view the self serving and unconscionable condemnation of the violence after the facts, by Handlers of these peddlers of hate and incendiary messages, that led to the mayhem we witnessed.

Precious lives were lost and it is deprave to play politics with the pains and sufferings unduly occasioned their families and loved ones.

We continue to beseech the leadership of all registered Political Parties, to not only dissociate themselves from such despicable acts, but to also publicly denounce them and admonish their supporters not to canvass same. Finally, the Commission wishes to extend its deepest sympathy to the families of the deceased and pray that their souls rest in perfect peace.

# End of release #