

29th May, 2025.

Accra, Ghana

PRESS RELEASE

JSI condemns attack on Latif Iddrisu by NPP supporters over the arrest of Chairman Wotumi

Journalists Sanctuary International (JSI) condemns the assault on Latif Iddrisu a JoyNews journalist, by agents and supporters of the New Patriotic Party (NPP) in Accra over the arrest of the party's Ashanti Regional Chairman Bernard Antwi Boasiako popularly known as Chairman Wontumi.

What happened?

On Tuesday, the 27th day of May, 2025, the Ashanti Regional Chairman of the New Patriotic Party (NPP) Bernard Antwi Boasiako popularly known as Chairman Wontumi was arrested and detained at the Economic and Organised Crime Office (EOCO) over some allegations of causing financial loss to the state. Upon hearing the news, supporters of the New Patriotic Party (NPP) gathered to protest the arrest

Latif Iddrisu was reporting live from the premises of the Economic and Organised Crime Office (EOCO), covering the protest, but was confronted by security officers who forced him to delete videos and pictures he had recorded at the scene.

In the coverage, Latif was struck on the head, and a stone and rubber band were seen used as weapons in separate incidents by a group of NPP supporters who were unhappy with his report of the events. Prior to that, in a very charged interview, the former Greater Accra regional minister under the erstwhile Akufo Addo administration, Titus Glover, accused the media particularly JoyNews for "going dumb under the Mahama administration" because according to him members of the NDC are also undertaking illegal mining in some forest reserves in Ghana. When the journalist suggested to him to share that information with security agencies to apply the law on those perpetrating the alleged crime, the former regional minister deflected and went on to attack the media.

What was equally disturbing as was captured during the live broadcast, was that the journalist was threatened by some of the party supporters who openly stated that they know where the journalist lives.

The journalist after coming under physical attacks and reporting same in his narration, was confronted by one protester who suggested that the claim of assault by the journalist were false despite being captured live on camera.

Journalists Sanctuary International (JSI) is calling on the Ghana Police Service and the Economic and Organised Crime Office (EOCO) for a swift investigation and prosecution of the attackers. Additionally, and in light of the open threat, JSI is asking the state security architecture to provide special security for the journalist to safeguard him. The act violates the right of the journalist, and also erode press freedom and the public's right to information.

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For press inquiries and information

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