

PRESS STATEMENT

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Date: 9th September 2025

Location: Manso Nkwanta Constituency, Ashanti Region

**SUBJECT: CALL FOR JUSTICE AND ACCOUNTABILITY OVER
MILITARY BRUTALITY AT ASANKO MINES RESULTING IN THE
DEATH OF AN ASSEMBLYMAN AND A RESIDENT IN MANSO
NKWANTA**

Introduction & Incident Background

I have received with deep shock and grief the tragic events that occurred at the operational area of Asanko Mines, where military officers deployed to the company brutalized community members, leading to the untimely death of an elected Assemblyman and another resident. This heinous act of violence not only robs families of their loved ones but also strikes at the very heart of our democracy, security, and the dignity of the communities that host the mine.

For several months, residents of the Manso enclave have raised concerns over intimidation, molestation, and harassment allegedly perpetrated by security personnel attached to the mine. These incidents have created a climate of fear and mistrust, undermining the social fabric of the community and eroding the mutual respect that must exist between a corporate entity and its host communities.

The recent escalation into lethal force resulting in the loss of lives cannot be tolerated under any circumstance. This tragedy must serve as a turning point for the State, the mining company, and security institutions to re-examine the deployment of armed officers in private company operations and ensure that the rights, freedoms, and safety of citizens are respected at all times.

Demands & Responsibility

In the spirit of justice, accountability, and the rule of law, we hereby call on the following Ministries and Government Agencies to take immediate action:

1. **Ministry of the Interior** – to initiate an **independent public inquiry** into the deployment, conduct, and accountability of the military officers involved, and to outline clear guidelines for the use of armed security in private commercial spaces.
2. **Ministry of Defence & Ghana Armed Forces Command** – to take **disciplinary and criminal action** against the officers directly responsible for the shootings. Furthermore, they must conduct a thorough review of their deployment policy to prevent the military from being used as an instrument of corporate intimidation.
3. **Ministry of Lands and Natural Resources & Minerals Commission** – to investigate the role of Asanko Mines in this incident, including whether the company sanctioned or facilitated such excessive use of force, and to review the company's social responsibility and community engagement practices.
4. **Commission on Human Rights and Administrative Justice (CHRAJ)** – to independently examine the human rights violations suffered by the community and make binding recommendations for redress, including compensation for victims' families.
5. **Parliament of Ghana, Defence and Interior Committee** – to summon the Ministers of Defence, Interior, and Lands and Natural Resources to answer questions on the matter and ensure transparent accountability to the Ghanaian people.

Call for Justice & Way Forward

I hereby demand the following on behalf of the people of Manso Nkwanta:

- **Immediate suspension of all military personnel operating at Asanko Mines** pending the outcome of investigations.
- **Full compensation** and state recognition for the bereaved families, given the profound loss of an Assemblyman who served his people with dedication.
- **Psychosocial support** for the families and community members traumatized by the incident.

This incident must not be treated as an isolated case, but as a wake-up call for Ghana to rethink the relationship between mining companies, security institutions, and host communities. The blood of our brothers, including the late Assemblyman, must not go in vain. We owe it to their memory, and to the dignity of the Ghanaian people, to ensure that justice is done swiftly, transparently, and without fear or favour.

I therefore urge the media, civil society, faith-based organizations, and the international community to stand with the people of Manso Nkwanta in demanding justice and safeguarding the rights of all Ghanaians against corporate and institutional abuse.

Signed

Hon. Tweneboa Kodua Fokuo

CC:

- The Presidency
- Speaker of Parliament
- Ministry of Defence
- Ministry of the Interior
- Ministry of Lands and Natural Resources
- Minerals Commission
- CHRAJ
- Civil Society Organizations
- The Media