



Press Statement

14 April 2026

Defend Our Democracy Condemns the Killing of yet Another Municipality Employee, Martha Rantsofu.

Defend Our Democracy expresses its deepest shock and outrage at the senseless and brutal killing of Ms. Martha Rantsofu, Acting Accountant at Emfuleni Local Municipality, who was gunned down in broad daylight while waiting for her car's tyre to be fixed in Vanderbijlpark.

We condemn this heinous act in the strongest possible terms. The murder of Ms. Rantsofu is not only a devastating loss to her child, family, friends, and colleagues, but also a direct assault on the values of justice, accountability, and democracy. Public servants who dedicate their lives to serving communities must never be subjected to such violence and intimidation.

At present, the motive behind her murder is not known. However, the way she was killed, pumped with multiple bullets in an execution-style attack, makes it clear that the perpetrator intended to ensure her death. This brutality cannot be tolerated in a democratic society.

Defend Our Democracy commends the Political Killings Task Team for taking over Ms. Rantsofu's assassination case. We urge them to act swiftly and decisively to arrest the perpetrators and bring them to justice.

This tragic incident underscores the urgent need to protect whistleblowers, municipal officials, and all individuals who stand against corruption and maladministration. Violence cannot be allowed to silence those who work with integrity in the public service.

We stand in solidarity with the family of Ms. Rantsofu and the community of Emfuleni during this time of grief. Her life and service must not be forgotten, and her death must serve as a rallying cry for all South Africans to defend our democracy against violence, corruption, and impunity.

For media inquiries, contact

Andries Sibanyoni

Mobile: 071 037 6138