

# JOINT COMMUNIQUE ON THE LAND INVASIONS NEXT TO OLIEVENHOUTBOSCH AND POSSIBLE FURTHER LAND INVASIONS.

Issued by Gerardsville Community Sector Sub-Forum and Doornrandje & Laezonia Community Safety Sector Sub-Forum on 30 September 2022.

All residents are aware of the extensive land invasions which have occurred in Knoppieslaagte and neighbouring areas since the 26 August 2022. Residents should also be aware that interdicts have been successfully obtained against the land invaders and have been upheld by the High Court when challenged by the EFF. The residents have established a trust fund to raise funds for the removal of the shacks which have been established by the land invaders. We have undertaken to extend this fund-raising effort to our respective areas to assist our neighbours in raising the necessary finances to give effect to the evictions. Details of this initiative will be separately communicated to residents including how any donations may be made.



***Acting on advice and guidance adopted in the Knoppieslaagte land invasions, the following represents key initiatives which must be implemented in our areas on an urgent basis. We are aware of ongoing rumours of further land invasions, possibly onto vacant land in our sectors and accordingly need to take pre-emptive measures to ensure we can take the appropriate measures if needed.***

## Action item 1

- Ensure all properties have “no trespass” signage on their properties. Once these signs are placed, they must be photographed for future record purposes as they are often removed by the land invaders.

## Action item 2

- Identify the owners of all vacant properties in our sectors.
- If the landowner is absent, request the landowner to appoint a Caretaker for their property(ies). A sample of such an appointment letter is included in this communique.
- Once appointed, the Caretaker would be in a legal position to lay criminal charges of trespass against land invaders and file affidavits in support of interdicts against the land invaders in the High Court.



- These Caretakers are required to be contacted at short notice, and that the appointment letter is readily available.
- Criminal charges of trespass must be laid at the relevant SAPS station urgently by the Caretaker.
- You are urged to send a copy of these Caretaker appointment letters to your local CPF.
- Use the affidavit attached hereto when filing the trespass charges against any land invaders.
- View and download the necessary documents and guides using this link <https://dlssf.co.za/category/security-farms-smallholdings/land-invasions/>

### Action item 3

- The various CPFs will soon commence a process of identifying vulnerable residents and possible emergency evacuation procedures for these persons, their tenants and domestic animals.
- We anticipate that these land invasions will be a feature of our landscape well into 2024, leading up the National and Provincial Elections.

### Action item 4

- We are also exploring options of obtaining similar interdicts to those which residents and Eskom obtained in Knoppieslaagte. We have collated copies of the High Court interdicts in other matters and will share redacted versions of these in due course.

It is vitally important that any land invaders must not be confronted in any manner whatsoever and that legal processes need to be followed, no matter how frustrated one may be.

*We appreciate that in diverse communities such as ours, there will be many differences of opinion and disagreements. Even so, in respect of this strategy we urge a common and united approach in implementing the action items identified here.*

Following this joint communication, we will conduct an audit of properties which are vacant and potentially earmarked for land invasion and request the community to assist us in determining whether the Caretaker agreements are in place and/or whether interdicts are already in place for these properties from previous incidents of land invasions.

## Gerardsville Community Sector Sub-Forum

## Doornrandje & Laezonia Community Safety Sector Sub-Forum

