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**MALAWI POLICE SERVICE
PUBLIC RELATIONS OFFICE**

NATIONALPOLICE HEADQUARTERS
PRIVATE BAG 305
CAPITAL CITY
LILONGWE 3
17th February, 2022

THERE IS NO CAUSE FOR ALARM

The Malawi Police Service (MPS) is aware of the public concern caused by some criminal incidents that have occurred recently. The Service agrees that it becomes worrisome where the police and a particular section of our society are targeted by criminals.

During the night of 12th to 13th February, 2022, a gang of criminals stormed Lilongwe Police Station where they stole four car batteries and other property from vehicles that had been impounded for different reasons. The Malawi Police Service would like to inform the general public that three people have been arrested in connection to this crime and more are expected to be arrested. Some of the stolen property has also been recovered.

During the night of 13th to 14th February 2022, a gang of criminals attacked a Catholic institution in Chikwawa where they stole three laptops and three cellphones from nuns. Investigations on this incident are also progressing well and we may see a breakthrough soon. We have since stepped up our level of alertness over Catholic establishments as experience has shown that criminals, for whatever reason, are targeting them.

On the same day, at around 05:00 hours, at Zomba Police Station, an unknown criminal broke into the police station and stole a rifle that was loaded with ten rounds of ammunition. We would like to inform the public that we have intensified our investigations and we are gradually closing in on the criminal. Soon the criminal will be arrested and the rifle will be recovered. The officers from whose custody the rifle was stolen are also accounting for their sloppy behavior in a criminal court.

We would like, therefore, to assure the public that the Service is in control of the security situation in the country and that there is no cause for alarm.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "James Kadadzera". The signature is written in a cursive style with a horizontal line crossing through the middle of the letters.

James Kadadzera, ACP

Public Relations Officer