

## PRESS RELEASE SECURITY SECTOR

Freetown (23<sup>rd</sup> March, 2022) - The Security Sector is appalled by the recent resurgence of the use of political party loyalists as marshals. The public may recall that on 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2021, following an engagement with the leadership of all political parties, the Security Sector slammed a ban on the cultivation/grooming and use of marshals by all political parties.

It must be noted that the ban against the nurturing of able-bodied party loyalists as marshals remains in force. The leadership of all political parties are reminded of their obligation to ensure that the conduct of their members is not detrimental to national security. They are therefore advised to use their influence on their members in a positive way to foster peace and security in the country.

The Security Sector wishes to assure all political parties and the general public that it has the capacity to provide professional security services to all who are entitled and to maintain law and order in the country. Resorting to the use of party marshals or hooligans is unlawful and the practice will not be tolerated now and in the future.

Any political party, person or group of persons who attempts to contravene the ban on the use of marshals and/or under the pretext of any other social grouping will face the full force of the law.

Signed:

Abdulai Caulker

(National Security Coordinator)

For and on behalf of the Security Sector