

# Media Statement



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**TO: ALL MEDIA**

**DATE: 13 NOVEMBER 2015**

**RE: BAIL GRANTED & SET AT R3000 FOR 16 UWC STUDENTS**

Yesterday, 16 University of the Western Cape students appeared at the Bellville Magistrates Court. Five of the students are charged with assault with intent to do grievous bodily harm. They are alleged to have attacked a paramedic employed by the university leaving him with head injuries and a slash on his hand.

Another group of 11 students also appeared. They are charged with public violence, malicious damage to property, arson and contravention of a high court order. These students are alleged to have burnt the residential administration building, smashed windows of the School of Public Health and destroyed equipment at the School of Public Health. This group includes a minor.

The state did not oppose bail and the presiding officer set it at R3000 for each of the 16 students. During the appearance, the state indicated that it will not oppose if the bail was lowered to R1000 each considering that there were complaints that students are unemployed and their parents and relatives are not in town.

Bail conditions were set in place for the 16 students as follows:

- Accused students must not set foot on the campus during the course of the case.
- They must each provide an alternative address.
- If they want to write the end of the year exams, their legal representatives must arrange with the Chief Legal Advisor of the university for an alternative venue.
- If they want to pick up their belongings from the student residencies, their legal representatives must arrange with the Chief Legal Advisor of the university. Police and members of campus security will assist them move their belongings.
- The accused must not threaten university management including personnel and fellow students who wish to write exams.

The case has been postponed to 11 December 2015 for further investigation.

Kind Regards,

**Eric Ntabazalila**

**Regional Communications Manager**

**DPP: Western Cape**