



# FORUM

VIR GEMEENSKAPJSOERNALISTE / OF COMMUNITY JOURNALISTS

NPC Reg. No. 2016/039014/08

23 October 2019

## **Forum of Community Journalists deeply concerned about direct threat to Potchefstroom Herald editor**

The Forum of Community Journalists (FCJ) condemns the direct threat levelled against Potchefstroom Herald editor, Dustin Wetdewich, in the strongest possible terms.

The FCJ has learned that Wetdewich has approached a municipal worker from Potchefstroom for comment on a story said workers is implicated in. He refused to comment but has sent Wetdewich a screenshot showing Wetdewich holding his two children in his arms.

The FCJ is deeply concerned about the action and the intimidation displayed by the municipal worker who is currently under investigation by the Hawks. What we find even more disturbing, is the ill-concealed threat against his two under-aged children.

“This is unacceptable behaviour by a public official against one of our members who is only doing his job. Community newspapers are the eyes and ears of local taxpayers and should not be hindered to fulfil their watchdog roles.

“We urge the local government authority in Potchefstroom to speedily investigate this case against the worker involved and ensure that he is brought to book,” said FCJ executive director, Hugo Redelinghuys.

**End**

**For more information, please contact the Executive Director of the FCJ, Hugo Redelinghuys at [hugo@groupeditors.co.za](mailto:hugo@groupeditors.co.za).**

---

### **Directors:**

Hugo Redelinghuys – **Executive Director**, Ben Burger – **Deputy Executive Director**,  
Tobie van den Bergh, Pieter Delpont, Bea Emslie, Roelien Vorster, Lerato Serrero,  
Marietta Lombard, Lientjie Mentz (co-opted)