



LEGAL RESOURCES CENTRE

MEMO No. 029-004

PRO No. 000002022

Durban - Nkomo Dubeane Centre - 20 St Andrews Street - Durban 4001 - South Africa

Tel (031) 3017572 - Fax (031) 3002023 - Dopea 1 Perry Road Eastanga Tshakanda@lrc.org.za

Your Ref : Dr M O Sutcliffe  
Our Ref : MRC/MRP /

Date : 3 December 2007

**Dr. M O Sutcliffe**  
City Manager  
eThekweni Municipality  
1<sup>st</sup> Floor, City Hall  
West Street, Durban

Fax: 031 311 2100

Dear sir

**RE: INTENDED EVICTIONS AT SHANNON DRIVE INFORMAL SETTLEMENT**

We act on behalf of the Abahlali Basemjondolo, a social movement representing the interest of homeless people in Kwazulu-Natal.

We have been instructed that officials from the Ethekwini Municipality arrived at an informal settlement in Shannon Drive, Reservoir Hills on 27 November 2007 and proceeded to tear down approximately 16 shacks on the site. I am advised that the settlement has been in existence for a number of years and provides accommodation to hundreds of people, mainly domestic workers, to the residents of Reservoir Hills. Upon leaving the informal settlement on 27 November 2007, the officials promised to return during this week to complete the demolition of approximately 86 "new" shacks.

Could you kindly advise in terms of what statute these evictions are being carried out, and in as much as section 26 provides that no one may be evicted from their home without an Order of Court, we would be pleased to receive a copy of the said Order(s). In the absence therefore, we will assume that the evictions and planned evictions are unlawful. As such, we call upon you as the Administrative Head of the Ethekwini Municipality to order that no further demolitions at Shannon Drive take place, and that those shacks, which have been demolished, be forthwith rebuilt.

In the event that we fail to receive a written undertaking from you with 2 days of receipt hereof, confirming that no further evictions without Court orders will take place and an undertaking to rebuild the shacks that we destroyed, we will be obliged to approach the Court on an urgent basis to interdict any planned demolitions.

We await your urgent response.

Dr M O Sutcliffe  
12/3/2007

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Yours faithfully,  
LEGAL RESOURCES CENTRE



**MAHENDRA CHETTY**

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**CC. Mr. M Sibisi**  
Head: Legal Services  
eThekweni Municipality  
Fax: 031 311 3261

**Mr. C Pather**  
Director of Housing  
eThekweni Municipality  
Fax: 031 311 1469