



# PRESS RELEASE

22<sup>nd</sup> March, 2024

## ASSURANCE ON BVD SECURITY FOLLOWING RECENT MEMO SPECULATIONS

This Press Statement is to clarify concerns that have emerged from a circulating memo about our Biometric Verification Devices (BVDs) following the 2023 District Level Elections (DLE). The memo titled “RETURN OF BIOMETRIC VERIFICATION DEVICES” was signed by the Deputy Chairman of Operations.

First and foremost, it is imperative to address and dispel the rumors of alleged BVD thefts, which have been misconstrued by the circulation of a memo intended for internal asset reconciliation. The fact of the matter is, there have been no thefts of BVDs from the Electoral Commission's stores. The only items stolen are five (5) laptops, which, as previously clarified, are separate from the BVDs and do not possess the capability to affect the integrity or outcome of elections.

The memo in question, widely shared on social media, was a routine communication aimed at ensuring the accountability and returning of all electoral equipment, including BVDs, to the Commission's custody. This procedure underscores our rigorous asset management system, designed to maintain a transparent and accountable inventory of all Commission assets. This Commission places high value on all its assets.

Let us reiterate for the public's peace of mind:

- **No Compromise to Electoral Integrity:** The BVDs, integral to our electoral process, are designed with sophisticated security features. Without the proper activation and official use within our electoral framework, these devices are essentially inoperative. The integrity of our elections, therefore, remains unassailable.
- **Misinterpretations and Clarifications:** The circulated memo should be understood in its correct context. It is a procedural document for asset management, not an admission of asset theft. Our efficient tracking system ensures the return and accounting of all our assets, reaffirming our commitment to prudence with the use of the public purse.
- **Security and Usefulness of Equipment:** We want to assure the public that any equipment, if ever misplaced and even in cases of vandalism, cannot be utilized to undermine the credibility of our electoral process due to the advanced security protocols and activation requirements in place.

In light of these clarifications, the Commission urges the public and all stakeholders to approach information dissemination with accuracy and responsibility. Unverified speculations serve only to undermine public trust and the integrity of our democratic processes.



ELECTORAL COMMISSION  
GHANA

# PRESS RELEASE

The Electoral Commission remains dedicated to its mission of delivering transparent, free, and fair elections. We continue to uphold the highest standards of integrity in our operations and are committed to protecting the sanctity of the electoral process.

Thank you for your attention and cooperation.

**MICHAEL BOADU**  
**AG. HEAD, PUBLIC AFFAIRS**



ELECTORAL COMMISSION  
GHANA

**MEMO**

FROM: DEPUTY CHAIRMAN, OPERATIONS

TO : REGIONAL DIRECTORS:

1. Greater Accra
2. Eastern
3. Western
4. Central
5. Upper East
6. Savanna
7. Northern
8. North East
9. Western North
10. Volta

COPY : CHAIRPERSON  
DEPUTY CHAIRMAN, CORPORATE SERVICES

SUBJECT: RETURN OF BIOMETRIC VERIFICATION DEVICES (BVDs)

DATE : 7<sup>TH</sup> MARCH, 2024

I bring you greetings from the Commission and trust that this Memo finds you well.

You will recall that the Commission directed Regional Directors to submit all BVDs used for the 2023 District Level Elections to the Head Office.

The attention of the Commission has been drawn to the shortages in the quantity of BVDs retrieved from the above listed regions.

The Commission directs that the affected regions should arrange to return the outstanding BVDs to the Procurement Inventory and Management Unit at the Head Office.

Find below the Regions and the Number of Outstanding BVDs:

SN	REGION	NUMBER OF OUTSTANDING BVDs
1	Greater Accra	1
2	Eastern	1
3	Western North	2
4	Western	5
5	Central	1
6	Volta	2
7	Upper East	3
8	Savannah	2
9	Northern	9
10	North East	2

Thank you.

**SAMUEL TETTEY**