**SUMMARY OF GUIDELINES FROM OUR SAFETY FOR COMMUNITY WORKSHOPS OVER THE PAST SIX YEARS**

By Roland de Vries

Herewith a summary of the essential guidelines from our range of community safety workshops we have formulated over the past four years:

* Let us take control as peace-loving communities over our own safety, get involved and get organised.
* Read the Bible book of Nehemiah and begin with the protection of our families (home and hearth protection) and the continued building of hope and trust in Faith.
* Extend the safety network (community safety zones) systematically and close ranks with your neighbours - mutual support, all-round protection with safety systems set up in depth.
* Make sure your safety plan and contingency planning are in place and monitor the danger signs so as to be proactive – take the initiative well in time.
* Stay away from the areas where it burns (pockets of fire) and secure our people where they are.
* Act purposefully and legally with state institutions such as the police to secure towns, residential areas such as shops and vulnerable points and access roads, when you are legally warranted to protect yourself (even with a firearm) and survival are concerned.
* Consider temporary relocation and security of people from private residences, retirement resorts, etcetera, only if their lives there are threatened by for example, fires or riots or something similar.
* Act legally, professionally and disciplined under all circumstances and keep emotions in check.
* Stay cool, calm, and calculated and do not participate in the process of panicking.
* Only work on verified information.
* Work with all peace-loving people who stand together under the same threat as we do - work on good and constructive attitudes and relationships.
* Work with police members and other relevant interest groups we can trust.
* Do not be tempted by instigators and agitators to act irresponsibly and recklessly.
* Think and appreciate (analysis) before we do.
* We work for peace.
* Do not fear and Believe.

*Remember the good lessons from the KwaZulu-Natal (KZN) insurrection of July-August 2021… at a time when good people stood together, against the criminal evil as a bastion of willpower and faith - those lessons that I referred to as the miracles of KZN: Evil is powerless if good people are unafraid, have Faith in our Heavenly Father and stand together!*