

# THE MIRANDA

magazine *Just News*



**JUDICIAL SERVICE COMMISSION**  
QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

- 04** CJ Malaba takes over CJCA leadership
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# CJASKS



1. Are you at work or on a frolic of your own?
2. If you are at work, are you doing the right thing?
3. Do you know
  - a. What to do?
  - b. How to do it?
  - c. And why you do it?

**THEN DO IT NOW**  
Please enjoy your day at work.



## Editor's *Note*

**A**s we conclude the year, I am thrilled to present to you the final edition of the *Miranda Newsletter* for 2024. This quarter has been characterised by significant achievements and inspiring stories that reflect our commitment to justice and community engagement.

In this edition, we highlight the successful hosting of the 7th Congress of the Conference of Constitutional Jurisdictions of Africa (CJCA) in the stunning setting of Victoria Falls. This gathering not only showcased our dedication to upholding constitutional values but also fostered vital discussions among Chief Justices, Presidents of Courts, and other legal professionals across the continent.

We also feature an exciting story about the introduction of end-of-year braai luncheons for all staff within the Commission. In a bid to strengthen camaraderie among our teams, JSC Secretary Mr. Walter Chikwana introduced these end-of-year gatherings for all court stations. They have provided a wonderful opportunity for our court staff to relax, celebrate their hard work, and build meaningful connections.

Additionally, we are proud to present a breathtaking story about the artwork created by a talented sculptor, which has beautifully transformed the Mutoko Magistrates' Court. This initiative underscores our belief in the power of art to enhance our public spaces and uplift our communities.

We also shine a spotlight on the commendable efforts of the Judicial Training Institute of Zimbabwe (JTIZ), which has made significant strides in 2024. Their dedication

to training and development is vital for empowering our judiciary and ensuring that we continue to serve our communities with excellence.

As we reflect on these achievements, let us also look forward with hope and determination. We hope you find this edition informative and engaging. As always, we welcome your feedback and suggestions to help us continually improve the newsletter.

I wish you all a joyous and prosperous New Year!

**Enjoy your read!**

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**A**s we commence the new year of 2025, symbolising a renewed commitment and leadership focus, I would like to take a moment to extend my warmest greetings and best wishes to each and every one of you. We must be mindful that the beginning of a new year bestows us an opportunity to introspect, to reflect, to strategise and to grow in the trajectory that we have so committedly taken this far. This we must do, with a shared vision and mission, undergirded by our treasured value system that has faithfully guided and directed us in all our feats of achievements.

Despite all the successes we have garnered, we must not be complacent. We must work harder than we have done before. We must aim to beat ourselves at our previous game. What we need collectively, is a paradigm shift, a renewed focus and a commitment to succeed. Granted, in the past years, we have navigated challenges and celebrated numerous attainments. This is testimonial to your dedication and hard work, which I have taken note of and in respect of which I am immeasurably grateful.

The course of success is verily not without any challenges. Therefore, as we commence the year, I heartily encourage each and every one of you to play the part, to put the effort and energy that is called for in our respective areas of responsibility and key performance areas. We must aim to end the year with an improved JSC than it was at the beginning of the year. In all these endeavours and industry, we must continue to foster an environment of innovation, integrity, and excellence.

As we reflect on the past year, it gives us intense pleasure to recount significant events and initiatives that took place across the Judicial Service Commission.

As you may recall, we had the honour of hosting two international conferences in Victoria Falls, both of which were resounding successes. Recently, in October to November 2024, we hosted the 7th Congress of the Conference of Constitutional Jurisdictions of Africa ("CJCA"). Pursuant to this Conference, the Chief Justice, Honourable Mr. L. Malaba took over as Chairperson of the CJCA. In January to February 2024, we hosted the Africa Electoral Justice Network ("AEJN").

The Monitoring and Evaluation visits which I undertook with my team to various provinces have been very instrumental in appraising our performance. I urge you to use the feedback they give you as this is critical in ensuring that we remain accountable and responsive to the needs of our communities and the vision of the Judicial Service Commission.

As far as our projects are concerned, our efforts did not go unnoticed. We have to keep the fire burning as we aim to finalise them. The Honourable Chief Justice conducted tours of projects such as Mutawatawa, Gwanda, and Cowdry Park. These visits showcased the ongoing efforts in our judicial outreach programmes and the impact they have on these communities. The Chief Justice's engagement reinforces our dedication to improving access to justice for all.

We are fully aware that our competitive advantage resides in our human capital. As such, in a bid to enhance operational efficiency, a comprehensive training program was conducted for the Sheriff's Office on Warehouse Management. This training empowered our sheriffs to perform their duties more effectively, ensuring that our processes are streamlined and our service to the public is improved.

As we make strides in our wellness programmes, we organised end-of-year braai luncheons across all provinces to foster camaraderie and appreciation among our staff. It was a wonderful opportunity for team members to reflect on the year's achievements, share experiences and strengthen the bonds that unite and rally us in our mission and towards our vision.

As we move forward, we must remain focused on our collective goal of enhancing the justice delivery system in our nation. We must leverage the lessons learned from last year and use them to propel our work this year. Above all else, we must strive to build and deliver a Judicial Service Commission that inspires public trust and confidence and that delivers world class justice to the people of Zimbabwe. Based on the work you have done thus far, I am excited about what we can achieve collectively in the coming months and am confident that, together, we will continue to make a positive impact in our communities.

Thank you for your unwavering commitment and enthusiasm. Here's to a successful and fulfilling year ahead!

Warm regards,





VP Chiwenga interacts with Chief Justices during the CJCA conference



Chief Justice Malaba addresses delegates during the conference

## Chief Justice Malaba at the helm of CJCA

**SHEPHERD CHIBUNE**  
**C**hief Justice Luke Malaba is now the new chairperson of the Conference of Constitutional Jurisdictions of Africa (CJCA), a continental body that federates the courts in charge of the review of constitutionality.

The CJCA seeks to promote and disseminate universal values and principles of the rule of law, democracy and human rights as enshrined in the preamble of the Constitutive Act of the African Union and national constitutions.

Chief Justice Malaba took over the chairmanship from Morocco during the recently held 7th congress of the CJCA held in the resort town of Victoria Falls.

The conference, which was officially opened by Vice President Dr Constantine Chiwenga was attended by more than 200 delegates of which 138 were foreigners representing 44 countries and eight organisations while 65 were local delegates.

Addressing the delegates, Chief Justice Malaba thanked the conference for having faith in Zimbabwe as the next CJCA chair through his leadership.

“On behalf of the judiciary of Zimbabwe, and indeed on my behalf, it is observed that the 7th Congress culminated in the commencement of Zimbabwe’s chairmanship of the CJCA. Firstly, I express my sincere gratitude to this Conference for bestowing this important role to Zimbabwe.



Delegates follow proceedings during the recent CJCA conference

Secondly, I am pleased to express my own and Zimbabwe’s commitment to entrenching and advancing the objectives of the CJCA during its tenure of the chairmanship of the Conference. For Zimbabwe, fulfilling the constitutional framework on which the CJCA is founded is an abiding commitment”, said the newly appointed Chairperson.

He also assured the delegates that Zimbabwe would not deviate from the precedents set by his predecessors.

“The Statute of the Conference of Constitutional Jurisdictions of Africa reaffirms the Conference’s commitment to the promotion of constitutional justice in Africa. In this regard, the Judiciary of Zimbabwe commits to facilitating

the attainment of the objectives of the CJCA as other past presidents have done and continue to do. The entrenchment of constitutionalism is a process that is founded on continuous efforts to adhere to the principles it emphasises”

Looking into the future, he said the CJCA looks “forward to the statutory activities set out in the Statute of the CJCA including the 8th Congress of the CJCA.”

The conference ran from 30 October to 3 November 2024 under the theme “Human Dignity as a Foundational Value and Principle: A Source of Constitutional Interpretation, Fundamental Human Rights Protection and Enforcement”.



VP Chiwenga delivers his speech during the CJCA conference

## VP Chiwenga Opens CJCA Conference

**BY FORTIOUS NHAMBURA**

**V**ice President Dr Constantine Chiwenga has implored the judiciary across the African continent to promote and preserve human rights and the dignity of the people for economic success.

Officially opening the 7th Congress of the Conference of Constitutional Jurisdictions of Africa (CJCA) held in the resort town of Victoria Falls from October 30 to November 3, 2024, VP Chiwenga said an independent and impartial judiciary was the cornerstone of the rule of law in any democratic state, emphasising its significance in protecting human rights, promoting economic growth, and fostering social cohesion.

He said, “an independent and impartial judiciary is the cornerstone of the rule of law in a democratic state. It serves to protect human rights and people’s liberties, provides a check on other branches of government, and helps secure an environment conducive to economic growth and social cohesion.

“The expectation, therefore, as you debate this theme in the next two days, is that you must explore the best and most effective methods and ways that should be used by the courts to uphold and enforce fundamental human rights and freedoms in general and human dignity in particular.”

He said the judiciary plays a critical oversight role on other organs of state in ensuring that they comply with the constitutional provisions of a country.

The Vice President commended the CJCA executive for affording Zimbabwe the opportunity to host the congress, saying meetings of this magnitude were critical in fostering collaboration and dialogue on matters of common interest for the good of our countries, the region, and beyond.

“Zimbabwe recognises that the privilege of self-governance and self-determination was born from a bitter armed struggle,” he noted, reflecting on the historical context of the nation’s constitutional journey.

The government believes the choice of Zimbabwe to host the congress was an endorsement of Zimbabwe’s



**“The expectation, therefore, as you debate this theme in the next two days, is that you must explore the best and most effective methods and ways that should be used by the courts to uphold and enforce fundamental human rights and freedoms in general and human dignity in particular.”**

judiciary sector as a beacon for the continent. He congratulated the Judicial Service Commission of Zimbabwe and other government departments for organising and putting in place all the necessary logistics that ensured a successful hosting of the event.

The conference ran under the theme **“Human Dignity as a Founding Value and Principle: A Source of Constitutional Interpretation, Protection, and Enforcement of Fundamental Human Rights.”**



# JSC shines in 2024

BY FORTIOUS NHAMBURA

The year 2024 was a remarkable year for the Judicial Service Commission (JSC). Despite the harsh economic conditions that prevailed, it continued to faithfully fulfill its mandate. Massive construction projects, hosting of international conferences, the success of the Integrated Electronic Case Management System (IECMS), and the acquisition of trucks for use by the Sheriff's department, among other successes, characterised the commission's year.



## Hosting AEJN

In January 2024, JSC successfully hosted the 3rd Annual Meeting of the Africa Electoral Justice Network (AEJN) in Victoria Falls.

The meeting was attended by Hon. Chief Justices from Swaziland, Eswatini, Zambia, and Zimbabwe, and a former Chief Justice of Kenya. Several serving and retired judges from across the continent and various stakeholders involved with electoral justice matters also attended.

The symposium was a platform for sharing experiences, best practices, and innovative approaches to electoral justice in the region. The conference provided an opportunity for cross-pollination of ideas meant to advance electoral justice on the continent.

The AEJN, to which Zimbabwe is a member, is a regional forum that brings together judges and officials tasked with the adjudication of electoral disputes in courts and tribunals and election management.



## Judges were interviewed and sworn in

In line with constitutional requirements, the JSC successfully interviewed candidates for 11 vacancies that had arisen in the Administrative Court and the High Court of Zimbabwe in May 2024. The 39 shortlisted candidates were grilled during the three days of interviews streamed live on national broadcasters NRTV, ZTN and JSC social media handles.

The JSC secretariat accomplished the feat without any hitches, bringing together the candidates, hosting them, and giving an opportunity for the public to contribute to the selection of the members of the judiciary.

The JSC later forwarded the list of candidates to His Excellency President Emmerson Mnangagwa, who later gave a nod to 11 names. The successful candidates were sworn in as judges of the High Court and the Administrative Court on June 10, 2024.

## Decentralisation drive



JSC continued with the decentralisation drive that saw it open two more courts in Masvingo province, in Chiredzi and Triangle. The opening of the court came on the heels of the opening of another resident magistrate court in Chikombedzi District. This was meant to continuously bring justice to the people as well as to improve access to justice.

The JSC also saw an increase in the pace of construction of additional new magistrates' courts at Mutawatawa, Cowdray Park, and Chegutu. Additional courtrooms and offices were constructed at the Mbare Magistrates' Court and Chegutu Magistrates' Court. Resident magistrate courts were established for Mudzi and Triangle while new circuit courts commenced in Mahusekwa and Shamva to increase access to justice for the citizenry.

The year also saw the beginning of construction of the JTIZ Training Centre. The project will provide office space and training rooms for the Commission. JSC started the renovation and customisation of a building in Bulawayo popularly known as the Cape to Cairo into offices of the Chief Justice and the Sheriff of the High Court. Work is at an advanced stage. Construction of the massive Gwanda Court Complex continued and is scheduled for completion next year.



## Benchmarking visits

JSC successfully hosted two delegations from Mozambique and one from Zambia who came on benchmarking visits. First came a six-member Mozambican delegation led by Chief Justice Adelino Manuel Muchanga in March.

The delegation sought to learn from Zimbabwe's successful integration of electronic gadgets in justice delivery. Another delegation from Mozambique came in the third quarter to benchmark the country's juvenile justice system. The 14-member delegation was led by the Deputy Chief Justice, Hon. Joao Antonio Beirao.

The six-member Zambian delegation led by Lady Justice Catherine Lombe Phiri was also in the country to appreciate the operations of the IECMS.

## Harare magisterial administrative province split

The third quarter of 2024 saw the JSC split the Harare Magisterial province into North and South in a move meant to enhance efficiency.

Harare North will include Harare Magistrates Court, Harare Civil Court, Mabvuku, Norton, and Chinamhora.

Harare South will comprise Mbare, Chitungwiza, Beatrice, Southlea Park, and Epworth.

The splitting of Harare Province into two magisterial

jurisdictions allow for better allocation of resources, which include the judicial officers, court staff, and facilities. It is also key in streamlining administrative processes, making court management more manageable and effective.



## Sheriff's department capacitation

The Commission acquired new 10-tonne trucks in its bid to capacitate the sheriff's department and introduce e-auctioning. The trucks will be used to move attached goods to the JSC warehouses that will be constructed in Harare, Bulawayo, Mutare, and Masvingo. The last quarter of 2024 also saw the commencement of construction of a storehouse at the Harare Magistrates' Court for the Sheriff's Department.



## CJCA Conference

JSC successfully hosted the CJCA conference in Victoria Falls. It was a litmus test for the Commission and indeed the country to host such a grand conference attended by over 45 Chief Justices and Presidents of the constitutional jurisdictions on the continent. All eyes were on the JSC. More than 200 high-profile delegates came and saw Zimbabwean hospitality at its best. JSC conquered. The commission did not falter on account of pressure. Upon arrival, all the delegates were given VVIP treatment from the airport to the hotels.

Each chief justice was given a liaison officer who assisted throughout the conference while the ever-smartly dressed ushers seamlessly assisted the other delegates.

The Commission came guns blazing and delivered a magnificent and successful conference. The region has something to replicate. As the Chief Justice of Eswatini, Honourable Bheki Mphalala later retorted, "This was a well-planned and executed conference."





Researchers undergoing training in Bulawayo recently

## JSC capacitates researchers

➔ **NOMBULELO HLEZA**

**The Judicial Service Commission continues to train and capacitate its researchers as it seeks to improve the quality of judicial research in the country.**

A capacity building workshop was held in Bulawayo recently, focussing on writing and research presentation skills.

The three-day training explored different kinds of writing skills and was intended to improve the quality of research within the department.

In his opening remarks, Chief Researcher Mr Panashe Gombiro, said continuous trainings were meant to capacitate and fully equip researchers to be able to discharge their duties more effectively.

"The Research Department exists to serve a specific end, as its purpose is better understood through the lenses of the effect of what is intended to be achieved, the intended outcome is efficiency in justice delivery.

"Judicial efficiency is grounded on prior research and informed decision making. This is at the heart of justice's concept that is common to all of us," he said.

He said researchers should always bear in mind that the Commission and the citizenry of Zimbabwe expected them

to give value to the Judiciary, and justice delivery in the country.

Mr Gombiro implored the Research Assistants to work hard and continue learning.

Ms Prudence Mhizha, a Research Assistant at Harare High Court, shared her enthusiasm:

"The training broadened my knowledge on how to apply and identify the appropriate research methods applicable depending on the task. I got to learn different kinds of research methods, some of which I was not aware of. Now I have a deeper understanding."

Ms Priscilla Sakutukwa, a Senior Research Officer at the Constitutional Court said the training was insightful and had equipped her professionally.

"The training significantly enhanced my research skills, equipping me with expertise in legal databases and tools. It also sharpened my analytical thinking and enabled me to critically evaluate complex legal concepts.

"I gained valuable insights into the importance of coherent writing and effective interaction with various legal sources," she added.

Researchers play a critical role in the administration of justice and their continuous training aids the effective justice delivery system in the country.

## Permanent court for Hwedza on cards

➔ **TARISAI MAFURA AND ANECKIE PEDZISAI**

**B**ALLOONING civil and criminal matters before the Hwedza Circuit Court have prompted the Judicial Service Commission (JSC) to upgrade the court to a permanent station.

JSC is committed to making justice easily accessible to all people as evidenced by the implementation of the court decentralisation programme.

Addressing the JSC staff members from Mashonaland East in Marondera recently after concluding his monitoring and evaluation visits in the province, JSC Secretary Mr Walter Chikwana said the amount of work at Hwedza Circuit Court demands the setting up of a resident court.

"In analysis of performance of the province (Mashonaland East), we realised that Hwedza has become a busy court. The amount of work there, both civil and criminal matters, demands that we set up a Resident Magistrates' Court at Hwedza without delay," said Mr Chikwana.

Mr Chikwana said it would be a disservice to the Hwedza residents if JSC delayed setting up a Resident Magistrates' Court.

"The longer we delay doing that (setting up Resident Magistrates' Court), we are doing a disservice to the people of Hwedza," Mr Chikwana said.

During his monitoring and evaluation visit to Mashonaland East Province, Mr Chikwana met with public works officials who promised to provide temporary structures for a courtroom and offices.

Mr Chikwana also said the JSC secretariat is in the process of making necessary recommendations to the Chief Justice's office.

Hwedza North constituency Legislator Honourable Cde Itai Ndudzo welcomed the development, adding that Hwedza residents will experience world-class justice.

"It is a most welcome development as it enables easy access to justice for people in Hwedza and surrounding areas. People are looking forward to this positive development that will enable them to experience world-class justice," said Honourable Ndudzo.

Hwedza Circuit Court was sitting once a week until this latest development.



JTIZ members pose for a group photo in Harare recently

## JTIZ conducts record trainings

➔ **PAYIDAMOYO NYOKA**

**"Our mandate is to work towards the training and capacity development of employees of the Judicial Service Commission as well as other interested external stakeholders."**

This summarises the duties and mandates of the Judicial Training Institute of Zimbabwe (JTIZ), a department within the Judiciary Service Commission (JSC).

For the year 2024, the department has had several milestones, achievements, and innovations that contributed to the capacity development of judicial and non-judicial employees.

Some of the key highlights for the year include the development of the Judicial Education & Training for Judges and the operationalisation of the Judicial Mentorship and Development Programme (JMDFP).

In March 2024, JTIZ was accepted to be a member of the International Organisation for Judicial Training (IOJT), leading to the improvement of the jurisprudence through exchange programs and conferences, accessibility to international judicial education and training resources, and exposure to international best practices in judicial pedagogy.

The JTIZ conducted a benchmarking exercise with the South African Judicial Education Institute (SAJEI) in June. The exercise sought to interrogate and investigate areas for development within the commission and to collaborate with SAJEI on JET and the development of jurisprudence.

There was the Annual Judges Seminar (AJS) held in South Africa

which was attended by High Court Judges, Honourable Justice Wamambo and Honourable Justice Munangati-Manongwa. The AJS provided an opportunity to develop ongoing judicial education and training, professional development, and dialogue opportunities among judges in the region, which resonate with the JSC's initiative of staff wellness.

JTIZ has introduced monographs designed to provide an in-depth analysis and discussion of jurisprudence, sufficiently detailed to meet the training needs of readers. They shall be published three times annually starting 2025.

The department was found in 2021, headed by Dr. Rosalie Katsande, deputised by Mr. Livard Livaroe Philemon, while Mr. Tayengwa Chibanda is the training coordinator.

The then Head of JTIZ, Dr. Katsande (now Acting Deputy Secretary), attributed the department's success stories to the teamwork and support from other departments.

She further indicated that there has been a significant uptake of the virtual and physical trainings by judicial and non-judicial staffers, seeing the department conducting trainings for each job category across the country.

"For the past three quarters, we have successfully conducted trainings for every job category across the country.

"We have made sure that we cater for the requirements of each department and employee," said Dr. Katsande.

By the end of October, the department had successfully conducted 126 trainings, both physical and virtual.

Dr. Katsande further highlighted that judicial trainings and educational programmes have been enhanced by the introduction of the E-LMS platform, an online learning platform that provides judicial education and training, continuous education, skills, capacity, and professional development.

Apart from providing judicial trainings and educational programs, JTIZ has successfully planned the hosting of local conferences which include the Judges Induction Programme for newly appointed judges of the High Court and the Administrative Court, the End of Second Term Judges' Symposium and the Magistrates' Orientation Programme.

It also produced conference reports for major international conferences such as the Africa Electoral Justice Network (AEJN) and the Conference of Constitutional Jurisdictions of Africa (CJCA). As part of skills development, the JTIZ is overseeing the placement of work-related learning of students.

"As a means to enhance skills development of students, the JTIZ is now coordinating the work-related learning. Work-related learning provides students with practical experience and skills that can help them in their careers. We have managed to offer 188 students industrial attachment," highlighted Dr. Katsande.

She also said that JTIZ is set for the 2025 legal year roadmap, which will see the introduction of the judicial podcasts, judicial practice forums, learning communities of judicial practice, and other media and platforms by which judicial education and training can be made more effective, engaging, collaborative, and interesting.

Ahead of the 2025 calendar, JTIZ has started implementation of its decentralisation plans to other provinces, a move set to boost the visibility of the institute and skills development.

Dr Katsande highlighted that her department encountered a number of challenges this year. The most notable being a lack of the tools of trade and funds to effectively take part in the developmental programmes.

Dr Katsande bemoaned the shortage of computers for training.

"The greatest challenge is that staffers do not have adequate tools of trade to enable them to effectively take part in trainings. During trainings, two or three people are sharing a single machine.

"However, we are glad now that the E-LMS rides on the IECMS infrastructure, yielding positive results. We are looking forward to the completion of the JTIZ Conference Centre in 2025, which will contribute to cost cutting and containment of conferencing," she said.





Chinhoyi High Court staff pose for a group photo during a staff wellness outing at Mazvikadeyi Resort recently



Harare High Court staff enjoying themselves during a staff wellness outing at Lake Chivero Resort

## Successful wellness activities in Chinhoyi, Harare

### ↳ TARISAI MAFURA AND NESBERT ZENGENI

**H**igh Court staff in Harare and Chinhoyi High Courts have embraced the total staff wellness concept through successful wellness activities that were done in the final quarter of 2024.

Wellness activities foster collegiality and enhance the mental well-being of staff members.

While the staff wellness policies are still being refined within JSC, members at the two High Court stations have already hit the ground running as evidenced by the high turnout during their separate fun-filled outings.

The Harare High Court staff contributed funds and visited the Lake Chivero Resort for braai while staff at the Chinhoyi High Court also organised their own staff wellness outing at Mazvikadei Resort in Banket.

At Mazvikadei, Chinhoyi staffers participated in activities such as boat cruises, braai, swimming, and athletics.

Chinhoyi High Court judges, Justices Philda Muzofa and Catherine Bachi-Muzawazi presented on conflict management and group dynamism during the highly subscribed outing.

In a recent interview, the Registrar of the Chinhoyi High Court Ms Tanyaradzwa Mashayamombe said wellness activities boost morale at the workplace and cultivate relationships among staffers.

"Wellness programmes promote strong relationships as they enable us to pray and play together. The activities also boost morale at the workplace. The members' overwhelming response to wellness activities was satisfactory," said Ms Mashayamombe.

Harare High Court staff wellness organising secretary, Ms Melody Mutonhori urged all staff members to take the staff

wellness initiative seriously as it goes a long way in promoting mental well-being.

"I urge all staff members to take this initiative seriously. It significantly contributes to enhancing our mental well-being. A clear and healthy mind, unburdened by the pressures of workloads and responsibilities, is essential for the effective performance of one's tasks. Therefore, participation in these outings, which occur outside the workplace, is vital," Ms Mutonhori said.

Staff members expressed their enthusiasm and hailed their leaders for organising the outings.

An assistant registrar, Mr. Givemore Turo said wellness programmes provide an excellent opportunity for team building and fostering camaraderie among employees in a setting away from the workplace.

"I fully embrace the staff wellness programme as it provides an excellent opportunity for team building. It also provides a platform to foster lasting friendships among staffers," said Mr Turo.

A court interpreter, Mr Manasa Rwafa weighed in saying it is his wish to participate in staff wellness activities regularly.

"We always wish to participate in such fun-filled events (staff wellness). Resources permitting, I wouldn't mind having such activities fortnightly," said Mr Rwafa.

Mr Brian Mudimu, an Assistant Sheriff said the staff wellness initiative is commendable, adding that the initiative has the potential to grow bigger if resources permit.

"This initiative (staff wellness) is indeed commendable, and with adequate resources, it has the potential to engage an even larger audience. I found great enjoyment in these activities and will continue to participate in future outings," Mr Mudimu said.



**Wellness programmes promote strong relationships as they enable us to pray and play together. The activities also boost morale at the workplace. The members' overwhelming response to wellness activities was satisfactory."**



Chief Justice Malaba speaks to Mr Tapera Bhiza (Accounting Assistant at Goromonzi Court) during his recent visit to Mashonaland East province

## A first for Mash East... As the Chief Justice meets, appreciates the province with a luncheon

### ↳ ANXIOUS MBALANGA

**H**istorically, Marondera is a town synonymous with carefree living, often characterized by a lackadaisical gait. It is therefore no surprise that the town has consistently abdicated much of the urgency of ceremonial responsibilities to Harare, which shoulders most events of national significance.

Nevertheless, on October 18, Marondera astonishingly shed its casual demeanour for a more dignified and regal appearance as it welcomed the Chief Justice of the Republic of Zimbabwe, Honourable Chief Justice Luke Malaba.

The Chief Justice's visit to Marondera marked several firsts. Breaking it down, it was the first tour by an incumbent Chief Justice to the Mashonaland East capital. It was also the first time that all members of the Commission's Mashonaland East workforce had direct contact with a sitting Chief Justice. Furthermore, it was the first-ever event where any Chief Justice gathered all his Mash East charges at the same table for an appreciative luncheon.

In his keynote address to guests at Marondera's Hope Fay Hotel, Chief Justice Malaba emphasized that the uniqueness of the Judicial Service Commission (JSC) is something that should be defended at all times. He stated

that this could only be achieved through the demeanor of every member, which should always prioritize the integrity of the JSC rather than harboring self-serving tendencies. "As Chief Justice and head of the JSC, let it be noted that I lead one JSC, and there can never be any other parallel entity but one JSC... In whatever actions each and every one of you executes in the course of duty, it should reflect only the interests of the organization," he said.

In urging JSC members to sincerely serve the interests of the organization, the Chief Justice highlighted the pitfalls of straying into unprofessional conduct. While such depravity may be an individual act, he cautioned how it could undermine the whole organization, which would be a great shame given the flagship expectations of justice inherently attached to the JSC.

While the Chief Justice's rallying point was commitment to hard work, he was generous with praise, showering commendations on the province's 120 employees. He particularly noted the vigorous efforts of the magistracy, which are reflected in a diminishing backlog. By the time of the visit, the province's backlog stood at 188 cases, a significant reduction from 247 cases at the beginning of the year, indicating a concerted drive for improvement.

The Chief Justice's visit to the Mashonaland East capital coincided with the conclusion of JSC Secretary Mr. Walter Chikwana's assessment trip around the province. The JSC Secretary's whirlwind tour covered the province's seven JSC stations in three days, a feat the Chief Justice acknowledged as no easy task. Day one, October 15, began at Mutawatawa, followed by Kotwa, and concluded at Mutoko. The 16th was dedicated to Murewa and Goromonzi, while Chivhu and Marondera were assessed on the 17th.

Although initially not part of the Secretary's itinerary, Wedza became his eighth stop. In his feedback to the Chief Justice, Mr. Chikwana underscored the urgent need to establish a resident status for the circuit court, which continues to grow in workload. He classified the establishment of a permanent court at Wedza as a high priority that needs to be addressed without delay.

In his comprehensive assessment of the province, Mr. Chikwana expressed general satisfaction with the performance



**As Chief Justice and head of the JSC, let it be noted that I lead one JSC, and there can never be any other parallel entity but one JSC... In whatever actions each and every one of you executes in the course of duty, it should reflect only the interests of the organization."**

of Mash East. During the same luncheon, he gave a special toast to the assistant clerks of court for demonstrating substantial improvement in their quality of work and resilience, becoming a reliable frontline for the courts. He emphasized the critical role played by the men and women manning the registries and urged the maintenance of such momentum.

The hosting Provincial Head, Ms. Shelly Zvenyika, appreciated the visits by the Chief Justice and the Secretary, reiterating the province's commitment to hard work and improvement. She welcomed the tour by the organisation's leading figures as an eye-opening experience that would provide direction for the province.



# 4th Quarter in Pictures







Kotwa Magistrates Court Staff

## New Kotwa Court: A Step Towards Justice Accessibility

➔ SHEPHERD CHIBUNE

**M**embers of the Mudzi community in Mashonaland East province are on cloud nine following the recent establishment of a permanent magistrates' court at Kotwa growth point. Most people previously had to travel up to 100 km to reach the nearest Mutoko Magistrates' Court to access justice, thanks to the JSC's vision of bringing world-class justice to the people.

Kotwa Resident Magistrate, Mr. Henry Sande, described the establishment of the new court as a "timely intervention."

"I want to thank the Judicial Service Commission for establishing a court here. When we started, we thought there was no work, but we have realized that there are volumes of work coming in. This reflects that long distances were discouraging people from accessing justice; as Mutoko was too far for them.

"On a daily basis, we are receiving more cases, and if this continues, we will be requesting another magistrate to assist me here. The people are now conscious of the need to exercise their rights; they are coming to court," said Mr. Sande.



Mr Sande

Some people living closer to Zimbabwe's border with Mozambique felt that the Mutoko Magistrates' Court was too far for them. They hailed the JSC for establishing the Kotwa Magistrates' Court.

Mr. Lucky Kuseri of Nyamapanda had this to say:

"People no longer have to travel long distances to access justice. Their cases are now being handled locally. Some people are even going to court just to appreciate how the court operates. People are becoming more enlightened because justice is now closer to us."

A local trader, Mr. Tafadzwa Siyakurima, supported Mr. Kuseri's statement.

"The court now sits every day in the Mudzi district. All offenders and victims can now access justice swiftly, unlike before when the Circuit Court only sat here on Tuesdays. Cases were ballooning daily, and we were getting worried as members of the community."

The Kotwa Magistrates' Court officially became operational on the 5th of August 2024. Mr. Sande commended the Chief Magistrate's Office for the support given to the Kotwa Court.

## First aid training for Corporate Services department

➔ TARISAI MAFURA

**T**he Corporate Services department recently received basic first aid training from the Zimbabwe Red Cross Society to fully equip and prepare them for any accidents or health emergencies at the workplace.

The training equipped the officers with basic first-aid skills that would be handy in assisting casualties during accidents at the workplace and beyond.

The Judicial Service Commission (JSC) organized the training, which ran from 9 to 11 December 2024.

Several topics on basic first aid such as cardiac arrest, fractures, fainting, and choking management among other issues were covered.

The training also covered the basic first-aid practicals on managing choking, burns, head injuries, and cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR).

In an interview with the Miranda, Principal Protocol Officer Mr Shepherd Chibune said the basic first aid training was long overdue.

"This basic first aid training was long overdue. The knowledge we got is important as it enables us to save lives. The training equipped us with the critical skills needed in managing casualty's situation from further worsening," said Mr Chibune.

A student in the department, Ms Sharon Muzawazi, thanked JSC for availing an opportunity for her to receive training on basic first aid.

"I am thankful to the Commission (JSC) for allowing me to train in basic first-aid. The training was insightful. I acquired the necessary skills that would enable me to render first aid to casualties timeously," said Ms Muzawazi.



Chief Justice Malaba speaks to a contractor during a tour of the Kwekwe construction project

## CJ tours projects

➔ FORTIOUS NHAMBURA

**C**hief Justice Luke Malaba recently visited the Judicial Service Commission (JSC) construction projects at Gwanda, Mtawatawa, Kwekwe and Cowdray Park as he sought to appreciate the progress at the sites.

The sites are some of the major construction projects that the JSC is undertaking as it moves to enhance justice delivery to the citizenry.

Chief Justice Malaba took the opportunity to set new timelines for the completion of the projects. Three of the projects have been penciled in for completion by the end of June 2025.

Speaking after the tour of the projects in Gwanda, Hon. Chief Justice Malaba expressed concern with the progress of some of the construction projects.

"People are waiting for this building. Everyone, the national authorities, the provincial authorities, and the community want to hear that Gwanda is finished. If we say June, all of us will work to complete this building by that time.

"I want this building finished in June. Let's say 45 percent of the work should be done in March and the remaining percentage by June 2025. We have to put a timeline in all our projects. We have

already set timelines for Mtawatawa and Kwekwe," he said.

The Chief Justice said, "We want to finish off these projects and hand them over to the people. These buildings are not there to be watched and talked about but to be used by the people.

"Let's finish these projects and hand them over to the people for use."

Completion of Mutawatawa Magistrates' Court has been set for January 15, 2025, while Kwekwe Magistrate Court and Gwanda Court complex are slated for June 2025.

At Gwanda complex brick work for the ground floor courtrooms and part of the magistrates' offices is now complete while on the first floor, all courtrooms, toilets and holding cells have been done up to window level.

Brickwork is ongoing on the corridor that leads to the Judge's chambers from the information centre and Victim Friendly Courtroom area.

When completed, Gwanda court complex will accommodate both the High Court and the Magistrates' Court. Expectations are that the building will be completed in 2025.

The government, through the treasury, has set aside funding for the Cowdray and Emgamwini Magistrates Courts under the Bulawayo Metropolitan priority projects for the coming fiscal year.





Murehwa Magistrates Court

## Vital support for Murehwa Court

BY SHEPHERD CHIBUNE

**M**urehwa Magistrates' Court got a new lease of life after JSC Secretary Mr Walter Chikwana ordered the urgent drilling of a borehole and the delivery of a standby power generator and a station vehicle during a recent monitoring and evaluation visit by the Secretariat to Mashonaland East province.

The recent monitoring and evaluation visit to Mashonaland East transformed Murehwa Magistrates' Court a great deal.

Water and power problems are now history at the rural court following the urgent drilling of a borehole and delivery of the generator. Transport woes are also a thing of the past for the station that received a single-cab Ford Ranger truck from the Secretariat.

Resident Magistrate Mr Elijah Sibanda could not hide his joy for the timely intervention.

"We did not have a truck for operations here but when the Secretary came, he immediately intervened and made sure we got a truck for use and

it was delivered the same day. We want to thank him for that", said Mr Sibanda.

He added that the power supply is now guaranteed as they have a brand-new power generator.

"We are okay. The power supply is now erratic due to load shedding and other power cuts but the JSC provided us with a generator. We hardly have electricity (ZESA) here but today it was a surprise that the whole day there was electricity. We now have power backup in the form of a generator. Fuel coupons for the generator are immediately issued on request without challenges," he said.

Mr Sibanda highlighted that the water supply is also erratic at the station but when the Secretary came, he made arrangements that they got a borehole. He made sure the issue was addressed and the borehole has since been drilled.

Mr Sibanda told this publication that he was impressed with the work ethics and how they are coping with their workload at the station.

"When I came here last year, the backlog was around 69 and by the end of the year, we had 49. So, we opened the year with 49 now we have 19 records.

“

We did not have a truck for operations here but when the Secretary came, he immediately intervened and made sure we got a truck for use and it was delivered the same day. We want to thank him for that.”

So, I am confident we are going to finish on a very high note. Because when I compare the cases, we are opening every day versus what we are clearing, I am confident we are going to finish the year with less than 20," he said.

He attributed the decline in cases to the increase in output. He said every magistrate must complete most of the cases allocated to them daily. If there are many cases, we say the magistrate must complete not less than four or five every day.



The picture collage shows the talented sculptor Mr Gwangwadze (center) showcasing his artwork at Mutoko Magistrates' Court recently

## Sculpture transforms Mutoko Court

BY SHEPHERD CHIBUNE

**T**he stunning artwork that welcomes every visitor to the Mutoko Magistrates' Court has elevated the ambience of the premises, making it a source of admiration for many. This transformation has sparked increasing demands from various stakeholders to replicate similar enhancements at court stations nationwide.

It is a blend of granite stones engraved with various messages about the judiciary, primarily related to the IECMS, as the courts enter the fourth phase of digitalisation.

Driven by his love for his country and a commitment to access to justice, prominent Mutoko entrepreneur Mr. Gwangwadze volunteered to beautify the court by showcasing his talent in granite stone artwork. He erected a gigantic Lady Justice statue, the Zimbabwe bird, a granite national coat of arms, a plaque, a laptop, and a large billboard, all located at the entrance and engraved with different messages.

While speaking to this reporter, Mr. Gwangwadze expressed his passion for his work, his desire to empower the community, and his commitment to making justice accessible to everyone.

"The Second Republic preaches action, emphasising love, patriotism,

and loyalty to our country. These values resonate deeply with me. To reach this point, I met Mr. Makunike while watching soccer in this town. He admired the artwork at my school, where a lion statue symbolises that I 'roar like a lion.'

"When he expressed his admiration, I suggested he could help enhance the Mutoko Magistrates' Court, as the place cannot achieve town status if the court does not look good," he said.

Mr. Gwangwadze added, "The symbols we have placed here indicate that we oppose corruption and that it doesn't matter who you are; the law should be applied fairly. Moreover, we have granite here in Mutoko, and we want to convey that the judicial system has gone digital and is now online. This should not just be a matter of discussion but also be visually represented, hence the computer and other IECMS-related items. The same applies to the Coat of Arms."

The businessman expressed his hope that all courts in Zimbabwe would feature the same artwork found at the Mutoko Magistrates' Court to symbolize strength and the rule of law. He thanked the JSC Secretary for allowing him to express his love for the judiciary.

"I want to thank JSC Secretary Mr. Walter Chikwana for giving us the opportunity to showcase our talent and

commitment to justice delivery. This reflects that Zimbabwe is now a free country where every citizen is allowed to pursue their passions, provided they do so ethically. My relationship with this court is sacred because they permitted me to undertake this work here. I now consider myself a child of the JSC. This artwork signifies that even judicial officers are subject to the courts, which will handle matters impartially.

In addition to donating his artwork to the JSC, he has also modernised Mutoko Heroes' Acre, with a vision for all Heroes' Acres in Zimbabwe to resemble one another.

Mutoko Magistrate Mr. Makunike thanked Mr. Gwangwadze for his generous contribution to the beautification of the court.

"Firstly, I want to thank JSC Secretary Mr. Walter Chikwana, who has always emphasised that the duty of a magistrate is not just to sit in court. As a magistrate, you are the manager of the court and must look after its ambience. Here in Mutoko, we managed to erect an IECMS statue as we move toward the fourth phase of digitalisation and embrace e-services through an electronic platform. In collaboration with local business member Mr. Gwangwadze, we built another statue of Lady Justice, significantly enhancing the ambience at this court," he said.

His clarion call as the JSC goes digital is for all courts in Zimbabwe to display artwork related to the IECMS so that people can read and understand what it is about without needing to inquire further from JSC members.





JSC staff enjoying their meals during the inaugural end of year braai luncheon

## Surprise braai luncheon for JSC staff

➤ TARISAI MAFURA

**The inaugural end-of-year braai luncheon for the Judicial Service Commission (JSC) staff across the country lived up to its billing. Food enthusiasts munched on portions of meat and quenched their thirst with soft drinks. JSC staff members turned out in large numbers at their respective stations to wrap up 2024 in style.**

Staff members welcomed the braai luncheon initiative, saying it provided a platform to mix, mingle, and get to know each other away from their busy offices. The braai luncheon at Harare Magistrates' Court was a cut above the rest. Dendera musician Suluman Chimbetu belted out hits that kept Harare Magistrates' Court staff on the dance floor.

Harare Magistrates' Court staff member Mr. Reason Nyamadzawo said the braai luncheon left an indelible mark on the minds of staffers. "The braai luncheon was well-coordinated and exciting. Everyone quenched their thirst and satiated their appetite. A standout performance from Suluman Chimbetu was the cherry on the cake," Mr. Nyamadzawo said.

Principal Human Resources Officer Ms. Munashe Tezhah thanked the JSC leadership for initiating the braai luncheon, which was well attended. "I thank the JSC leadership for initiating the braai luncheon. The braai luncheon for superior courts at Snake Park was successful, and everyone enjoyed it," said Ms. Tezhah.

Mr. Absolom Shoniwa, a VIP driver

at the High Court, said the braai luncheon should be an annual event. "This needs to be done regularly as it enhances staff relations through mixing and mingling. It also promotes staff retention," Mr. Shoniwa said.

Bulawayo Magistrates' Court staff member Ms. Norah Jambaya said they enjoyed themselves and had time to interact. "We had a great time interacting with each other and dancing. We hope to continue having such parties; they bring us together as staff members," she said.

The braai luncheon at court stations in Matabeleland North was marked by pomp and fanfare. Staffers treated themselves to meat, salads, and beverages. Provincial Magistrate Ms. Lindiwe Maphosa said staff members were excited. She added, "Maintaining consistency in holding events of this nature cements relationships in the workplace."

Mutare High Court Registrar Mr. Blessing Sauroombe hailed the JSC for planning and executing events such as the end-of-year braai luncheon that fosters cooperative relationships among staff members. The aroma of meat on braai stands made one savour the moment in Matabeleland South, where staff members embraced the braai luncheon.

Staff members in Mashonaland West took time to interact and break from their usual busy schedules. Provincial Magistrate Mr. Archie Wochiunga said, "Members were happy for this opportunity that the employer had given them, as well as the financial contribution extended by the employer. It is a request from members that the braai

luncheon become an annual event."

Murehwa Magistrates' Court staff member Ms. Faustina Mayiswa said, "I appreciate what the JSC has done for us. We were excited to meet as a family during the braai luncheon."

Masvingo High Court and Magistrates' Court staff members feasted on beef, pork, chicken, salads, and danced to blaring music at Stop Over. Masvingo High Court staff member Ms. Patiece Mutopa said, "We enjoyed ourselves a lot and expect this braai luncheon to be a permanent feature."

There was marked jubilation at each station in Mashonaland Central Province during the braai luncheon. The common mantra in the province was, "JSC zvazvinhu," loosely translated to "JSC is superb." Midlands Province also rose to the occasion, with staff members enjoying themselves with food, beverages, and soothing music at their respective stations.

The JSC is making great strides in promoting collegiality in the workplace through various initiatives, such as the recently oversubscribed braai luncheon.



Dendera musician Suluman Chimbetu entertains JSC staff in Harare during a braai luncheon



JSC senior managers and members of the Sheriffs' Department pose for a group photo after the Warehouse Management Training in Harare

## Warehouse management training for Sheriffs

➤ PAYIDAMOYO NYOKA

**Judicial Service Commission (JSC) managers and officers from the Sheriff's Department were awarded certificates of achievement for taking part in the Best Practices in Warehouse Management, Inventory Control, and Logistics training held recently.**

The three-day training workshop aimed at enhancing the operations of the sheriff department and improving human capital and skills development ahead of the introduction of the E-auction, warehouse and storage

management systems.

The workshop, which was conducted in collaboration with Harare Polytechnic College, covered areas such as inventory management, warehouse and store management classification of inventory, trip and load planning, routing, and scheduling.

Officiating at the certificate awards ceremony, JSC Deputy Secretary Mr Sithembinkosi Msipa expressed appreciation to Harare Polytechnic for partnering with the Commission to facilitate the training and indicated that the skills obtained must be put into good practice.



JSC managers receiving their certificates after the training





Scenes at the book donation hand-over ceremony in Harare recently

## 2000 law books for JSC library

➤ **JERMAINE HANGAZHA**

**The Judicial Service Commission (JSC) proudly received a generous donation of 2,000 legal books from the Anglo-American organization, in partnership with the International Law Book Facility.**

This significant contribution, officially presented on November 21, 2024, marks a pivotal step in enhancing legal education and access to resources within Zimbabwe's judicial system.

The donated books cover the following areas: Civil Procedure, Criminal Procedure, Contract and Sale Law, Intellectual Property Law, Company Law, Law Reports and dictionaries were also part of the donation.

The books will be distributed to all the provinces for use by judicial officers and members of the JSC.

Apart from the JSC, Ezekiel Guti University and Africa University also received books from the same donors at an event held at Number 28 Broadlands Road, Harare.

JSC Secretary Mr Walter Chikwana, his deputy Mr Sithembinkosi Msipa, the

Head of Policy and Legal Services Ms Bianca Makwande and the Chief Librarian Ms Millicent Makonese were part of the team that attended the event.

The event commenced with warm welcome remarks and introductions by Mr. P. Mangwende, Company Secretary and Legal Counsel of Unki Mines (Pvt) Ltd, followed by insights from C. Chibafa, Chief Financial Officer of the same organisation.

In his remarks, Mr Chikwana expressed profound gratitude on behalf of the Honourable Chief Justice, Mr. Luke Malaba, who could not be present on the day.

"I really want to express my profound gratitude and appreciation on behalf of the head of the Judicial Service Commission Honourable Chief Justice Mr Luke Malaba, who is well aware that I am here and performing this task today and also on behalf of all the commissioners of the JSC who authorised me to receive these books today," he stated.

He emphasised the significant role of legal literature in the profession, saying, "I know not of any profession that reads as much as lawyers. When such a donation

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**I really want to express my profound gratitude and appreciation on behalf of the head of the Judicial Service Commission Honourable Chief Justice Mr Luke Malaba, who is well aware that I am here and performing this task today and also on behalf of all the commissioners of the JSC who authorised me to receive these books today.**

is made, we at the Judicial Service Commission are especially passionate about libraries."

Mr Chikwana highlighted the essential nature of judicial libraries, reinforcing the commitment of the JSC to equip library facilities at all court stations.

"It is a requirement for all court stations to have libraries," he noted, underlining the importance of these resources in supporting judges and magistrates.



File picture: Traditional leaders

## JSC capacitates traditional courts

➤ **MIRANDA EDITOR**

**In a landmark decision aimed at bolstering the delivery of justice in rural areas, the Judicial Service Commission (JSC) has announced its support for customary law courts in 2025.**

This initiative, which includes comprehensive training and resource allocation for traditional court officials, is designed to enhance the quality of justice administered through these local systems.

JSC will render logistical support, training and assist in the alignment of the rules of the customary law courts with the supreme law of the country.

The move comes as part of a broader strategy to integrate customary law into the national legal framework, recognising its importance in resolving disputes within local communities.

Traditional courts, which operate under customary law, have been pivotal in addressing issues such as land disputes, marriage, and inheritance, especially in areas where formal judicial systems are less accessible.

In a recent interview, JSC Secretary Mr Walter Chikwana said interaction with traditional chiefs was a priority for the

Commission in 2025.

"Next year (2025) we are going to interact a lot with our traditional chiefs. As the JSC, we have taken a position that we will support the customary and local courts and capacitate them to deliver quality justice.

"In terms of the Constitution, customary law courts are part of the judiciary. Matters in the customary law courts are adjudicated upon by traditional chiefs, hence we need to support them in terms of skills development.

"We have mandated the head of the Judicial Training Institute of Zimbabwe (JTIZ) to start a training programme for the traditional chiefs so that they, among other things, observe the rules of natural justice.

"We are worried about the quality of justice that is churned out by those courts," he said.

The JSC and the traditional leaders met end of 2024 and came up with a roadmap on how the traditional chiefs will be capacitated.

"We met Chief Khumalo and two other chiefs recently and we had fruitful discussions. A roadmap has been crafted on how we will work together to enhance the quality of justice in the customary law courts in 2025," said Mr Chikwana.

“

**This initiative, which includes comprehensive training and resource allocation for traditional court officials, is designed to enhance the quality of justice administered through these local systems.**

Mr Chikwana emphasised the need for a balanced approach that respects both formal and customary law.

"Our goal is to ensure that all citizens, regardless of their location, have access to fair and effective justice. By training traditional leaders and court officials, we are reinforcing the legitimacy and functionality of these systems," he said.

As Zimbabwe moves forward with this initiative in 2025, the judiciary's commitment to enhancing customary law courts could mark a significant step toward a more inclusive and effective justice system that respects the country's diverse legal traditions.





HAPPY  
*New Year*

As we enter the new year,  
we express our gratitude for your efforts  
in upholding justice and serving our community.  
Wishing you and your loved ones  
a happy, healthy and prosperous  
**2025**



Above and below: Scenes at the JSC soccer tournament in Mutare

## JSC teams play friendly matches

➤ TARISAI MAFURA

**A** Mutare-based football team, Legal Tigers hosted the Judicial Football Club (JFC) and the Marondera Magistrates' Court Football Club (MMCFC) in December 2024 and played friendly matches.

MMCFC won three goals to one in the first match against the JFC and shared spoils with the host, Legal Tigers in the second match.

Making amends for the first defeat, JFC earned three points after beating Legal Tigers by two goals to one in the last match.

The matches were played under sweltering heat at Mutare Junior Primary School.

In a post-match interview with this publication, the JFC defensive midfielder Robson Chakona attributed their first defeat to a lack of composure and bumpy ground.

"I am disappointed about the first game. We lost the first match due to a lack of composure and the ground was bumpy," said Chakona.

MMCFC player Taurai Mugauri was ecstatic over his team's first win against JFC and singled out the lack of enough physical fitness as the reason behind sharing spoils against Legal Tigers.

"Winning matches is exciting and it boosts morale among players. I strongly feel that playing regular games and having enough training help in gaining fitness. We shared spoils with the Legal Tigers because of lack of enough physical fitness," said Mugauri.

Legal Tigers central striker Gift Sande was elated to play friendly matches against fellow Judicial Service Commission (JSC) teams, a development he described as a sign of embracing sport among staffers.



"Playing friendly matches against fellow JSC football teams from Harare and Marondera is good for us. Playing more (football) games promotes healthy lifestyles. It is exciting that my colleagues in the JSC are starting to embrace sport," Sande said.

JFC central defender Malvern Tigere made a clarion call to JSC staffers from other provinces to take sports seriously, a

development he said will enable them to play more games.

"There is a need to rope in more teams from other provinces. We can, for instance, celebrate JSC anniversary on the 10th of June through playing football games against (JSC) teams from other provinces," said Tigere.



# NOTICE BOARD

## MISCONDUCT WATCH: OCTOBER 2024 TO DECEMBER 2024



The member was an Accounting Assistant at a certain court station. The circumstances are that on the 6th of September 2024, the Provincial Accountant noted that there were some financial malpractices that the member performed. It is alleged that the member received USD199 as revenue on the 28th of September 2023 and the revenue consisted of Z69J fines of USD 195 and the Judicial fines of USD4. These were later mastered on the 10th of October 2023 on the master receipt. However, the member mastered USD4 instead of USD 199. These monies were supposed to be banked on the 4th of October 2023 but were banked on the 12th of October 2023. On the 12th of October 2023, another Accounting Assistant received USD 550.00 and the member purportedly sent the money to CBZ Masvingo before she commenced her vacation leave on

the 14th of October 2023. But that was not the case. It is alleged that the member proceeded to go on vacation leave and eventually banked the USD550.00 while on vacation leave on the 24th of October 2023. The member violated Treasury Instruction Regulations number 0430 and the Public Finance Management Act Chapter 22 that the money received the same day must be banked intact. It is also not known where the USD 550 was being kept between the period 13/10/2023 to 24/10/2023 and the USD 195 which was being kept between the period 4/10/2023 to 10/10/2023. The member went through the disciplinary process and was found guilty. The member was discharged with effect from 21 November 2024.

### NEW APPOINTMENTS

David Maketo *Court Interpreter*  
Sharon Ruvarashe Gava *Magistrate*  
Hazel Chitopo-Zimbizi *Magistrate*  
Paidamoyo Mafusire *Magistrate*  
Natasha Tanaka Muderedzwa *Magistrate*  
Deone Farai Chiroyi *Magistrate*  
Zvikomborero Angeline Muganyi *Magistrate*  
Grace Ropafadzo Sithole *Magistrate*  
Stephen Mbweya *Executive Assistant*  
Fiona Makadho *Executive Assistant*  
George Rupare *Executive Assistant*  
Pius Tanaka Magaya *Research Assistant*  
Mathew Takunda Vambe *Research Assistant*  
Gamuchirai Tokoda *Research Assistant*  
Kundai Janet Chirovi *Research Assistant*  
Nompilo Princess Nkomo *Research Assistant*  
Ebenezere Makukure *Research Assistant*  
Chantelle Mudyiwa *Assistant Registrar*  
Primrose Khumalo *Accounting Assistant*  
Tanaka Mandinika *Research Assistant*  
Gamuchirai Charumbira *Research Assistant*  
Nyashadzashwe Jeketera *Research Assistant*  
Letwin Sibanda *Research Assistant*  
Praise Chipiro *Office Orderly*  
Temba Kuwanda *Assessor*  
Hosea Mujaya *Assessor*  
Kudakwashe Ngwenyama *Court Interpreter*  
Sarah Mukwena *Executive Assistant*  
Patience Magora *Court Interpreter*  
Patience Choto *Assistant Registrar*  
Simbarashe Nyamunda *Assistant Registrar*  
Hamilton Kafesu *Assistant Registrar*  
Nigel Mupariwa *Assistant Registrar*  
Enias Magate *Assessor*  
Isaac Magwenzi *Assistant Registrar*  
Dadirayi Dhlwayo *Court Interpreter*  
Mitchel Mandaza *Executive Assistant*  
Berlin Ngcobo *Executive Assistant*  
Vongai Mahori *Executive Assistant*  
Chrispen Mutevedzi *VIP Driver*  
Takudzwa Mazaiwana *Assistant Clerk of Court*  
Brighton Mafu *Court Interpreter*  
Olga Dziga *Office Orderly*  
Devotion Masikati *E-filing Officer*  
Levi Vuma *E-filing Officer*  
Onias Musakwa *VIP Driver*  
Kenneth Madanhi *VIP Driver*  
Cotilda Mudzongachiso *Accounting Assistant*  
Simbarashe Musaniwa *Accounting Assistant*  
Augustine Chitimbe *E-filing Officer*  
Charles Maorera *Assistant Clerk of Court*  
Francis Muparuri *Office Orderly*  
Tendayi Mushayi *Assistant Clerk of Court*  
Passmore Chikangaise *Court Interpreter*  
Evangelista Mushiche *Assistant Clerk of Court*  
Rumbidzai Kamidza *Assistant Clerk of Court*  
Leeroy Sagwite *Watchperson*  
Lenin Chibanda *Accounting Assistant*  
Kudakwashe Nekwilima *Accounting Assistant*  
Lameck Chipuriro *Office Orderly*  
Grace Mlangeni *Executive Assistant*  
Petronella Moyo *Executive Assistant*  
Wendy Mutero *Assistant Clerk of Court*

Tinotenda Muvungani *Court Interpreter*  
Tanatswa Mutinhima *Additional Sheriff*  
Jacob Munoruzika *Office Orderly*  
Denbar Makuku *Office Orderly*  
Tanyaradzwa Hazangwi *Office Orderly*  
Tinaye Zvokuomba *Office Orderly*  
Melinda Mupfungidza *Magistrate*  
Never Mufumi *E-filing Officer*  
Patience Mtunzi *Executive Assistant*  
Pamela Maphosa *Court Interpreter*  
Rugare Thandiwe *Research Assistant*  
Bhanire Muranganwa *VIP Driver*  
Tafadzwa Chafanza *Administration Officer*  
Mathema MaryIn *Assistant Sheriff*  
kankuni Shirely Kudzai *Assistant Sheriff*  
Matare Keeroy Munaaha *Assistant Sheriff*  
Natasha Zaranika *Assistant Sheriff*  
Koster Tatenda Bridget *Assistant Sheriff*  
Chinemo Henry Munashe *Assistant Sheriff*  
Murimi Huggins *Assistant Sheriff*  
Sibanda Memory *Assistant Sheriff*  
Evidence Tengeyi *Assistant Sheriff*  
Rungamai Chipo Tavirayi *Assistant Sheriff*  
Kudzai T Dzama *Assistant Sheriff*  
Esnath Wadzanai Chipore *Assistant Sheriff*  
Loveleen Marshia Sawadye *Assistant Sheriff*  
Makanganise Tatenda *Assistant Sheriff*  
Machafa Patience *Assistant Sheriff*  
Marimbire Paddington *Assistant Registrar*  
Gurumani Audrey Theres *Assistant Registrar*  
Kubacha Obey *Assistant Registrar*  
Junior Mark Mlambo *Assistant Registrar*  
Prince Mupfichana *Assistant Registrar*  
Madzima Grace *Administration Assistant*  
Tapiwa Mugugu *Administration Assistant*  
Florence Makondo *Court Interpreter*  
Ndhliyase Nance Mlambo *Assistant Clerk of Court*  
Elina Mapfumo *Assistant Clerk of Court*  
Mutsvairo Ashley *Accounting Assistant*  
Promise Maveneke *Assistant Clerk of Court*  
Takunda Makwara *Assistant Clerk of Court*  
Chirinda Sheillah *Assistant Registrar*  
Mary Takawadiyi *Assistant Registrar*  
Manungo Blessing *Assistant Clerk of Court*  
Tadiwanashe F Zhengezi *Assistant Clerk of Court*  
Worth Makanakaishe Zharare *Assistant Clerk of Court*  
Jethro Pamacheche *Assistant Clerk of Court*  
Chidoko Tapiwa *Human Resources Assistant*  
Mafambise Daisy Tanyaradzwa *Human Resources Assistant*  
Munozorova Lee *Human Resources Assistant*  
Muguri Angeline Tariro *Human Resources Assistant*  
Zvendi Ngaakudzwe *Human Resources Assistant*  
Ngwenya Thabani *Accounting Assistant*  
Nyakunhuwa Promise *Assistant Clerk of Court*

### RESIGNATIONS

Tererai Tanyanywa *E-filing Officer*  
Spatnos Muzira *Executive Assistant*  
Thelma Mudzamiri *Private Secretary II*  
Kudzai Chitemamwise *E-filing Officer*  
Immaculate Mupotaringa *Research Assistant*  
Ishmmael Zulu *Auction Coordinator*  
Nomsa Kachingwe *Executive Assistant*  
Charity Nkomo *Executive Assistant*

### TRANSFER TO OTHER MINISTRIES

Rest Mguni *Court Interpreter*  
Chaziya Murenga *VIP Driver*  
Mercy Tshuma *Court Interpreter*  
Francisca Mhomwa *Executive Assistant*  
Shingirai Jingo *Driver*  
Tapiwa Mareke *Driver*

### DISCHARGE

Tobias Dhlwayo *Assistant Clerk of Court*  
Lindway Chidawaya *Accounting Assistant*

### PROMOTIONS

Mrs. Vongayi Palmer *Deputy Chief Magistrate*  
Mr. Collet Ncube *Deputy Chief Magistrate*  
Mr. Farai Gwitima *Principal Administrator*  
Anna Chitemamwise *Auctioneer*  
Brenda Chiwandamira *Deputy Auctioneer*  
Abimael Mafongoya *Auction Coordinator*  
Conrad Mandzvidza *Deputy Auction Coordinator*  
Mahere Tigere Wirirani *Senior Internal Auditor*  
Chifamba Aaron *Principal ICT Officer*  
Ruby Nondo *Principal ICT Officer*  
George Mushati *Systems Analyst*  
Maclean Masarapera *Principal ICT Officer*  
Kudakwashe Jinga *Peperere Accountant*  
Privilege Jani *Principal Officer*  
Anxious Mbalanga *Communications Officer*  
Jamine Hangazha *Communications Officer*

### EARLY RETIREMENT

Conwell Njobela *Court Interpreter*  
Malungelo Maduma *Court Interpreter*  
Percy Mukwindidza *Administration Officer*  
Gibbins Nyamakope *Assistant Clerk of Court*  
Eugine Chiwa *Watchperson*  
Tabitha Mutanhu *Transcriber*  
Lovemore Gwaze *Office Orderly*  
Samuel Makuyana *Assistant Clerk of Court*  
Saul Charare *Assistant Clerk of Court*  
Learnmore Zimbeva *Office Orderly*  
Antony Muranda *Assistant Clerk of Court*  
William Nyatondo *Assistant Clerk of Court*  
Dumisani Ndlovu *Human Resources Assistant*  
Donemore Marango *Assistant Clerk of Court*  
Mutsinze Musiwa *Assistant Clerk of Court*  
Maxwell Kashiri *Office Orderly*  
Edmore Nkomo *Court Interpreter*  
Sibongile Vundla *Accounting Assistant*  
Andrew Magumise *Court Recorder*  
Isaac Siakwiye *Court Interpreter*  
Mediatrice Dube *Court Interpreter*  
Sibani Tshaka *Court Interpreter*

### NORMAL RETIREMENT

Edinah Khuphe *Executive Assistant*  
Conwell Njobela *Court Interpreter*

# GRADUATION SPOTLIGHT



Congratulations to **Mrs Phathekile Msipa**, Senior Regional Magistrate for the Eastern Region who graduated at Midlands State University with a Master of Laws in Corporate and Commercial Law.



We are delighted to announce that **Mr Dumisani Ndlovu**, Chief Security Officer graduated with a Master of Arts in Defence and Security (National Defence University).



Congratulations to our IT Security, Cyber Protection and Infrastructure Specialist, **Mr Lovemore Munyadziwa** for graduating with a Master of Commerce in Information Systems, - (Merit with Book Prize) and a Certificate in Records and Information Management (Midlands State University).



Congratulations **Ms Monica Muvungani**, an Administration Officer at Bulawayo High Court on the great achievement. She graduated with a Bachelor of Science Honours Degree in Supply Chain Management (Lupane State University).



Let us celebrate our Librarian at Chinhoyi High Court, **Ms Ruvarashe Mutape** for graduating with a Master in Library and Information Science (National University of Science and Technology).



Thumbs up to **Ms Blessing Chawatama**, Principal Administration Officer at Harare Magistrates' Court for graduating with a Master in Business Administration (MBA) and Post Graduate Degree in Monitoring and Evaluation (Midlands State University and Lupane State University).



Congratulations to **Ms Anastancia T Luwinga**, an Assistant Clerk of Court at Hwange Magistrates' Court for graduating with a Bachelor of Commerce Honours Degree in Human Resources and Labour Relations (Zimbabwe Open University).



Cheers to **Mr Mudadigwa Francis**, Watchperson at Gweru Criminal Court for graduating with an Honours Degree in Human Resource and Labor Relations Management (Zimbabwe Open University).



We congratulate **Ms Angelinah Moyo**, a Principal Procurement Officer for graduating with a BCOM Honours Degree in Logistics and Transport Management (Great Zimbabwe University).



Congratulations to an Executive Assistant at Zaka Magistrates' Court, **Ms Mildret Chudu** for graduating with a Master in Business Administration (Great Zimbabwe University).



Congratulations to **Ms Mhisini Nomatier**, Court Interpreter (Norton Magistrates' Court) for graduating with a Bachelor of Science Honours Degree in Social Work (Women's University in Africa).



We are celebrating **Mr Runasi Munyambari**, Transport and Logistics Officer (Eastern Division) for graduating with a Master in Supply Chain System, Design and Applications and a Special Honours Degree in Monitoring and Evaluation (University of Zimbabwe and Lupane State University).



Congratulations **Ms Nomaqhawe Mhlanga**, a Court Interpreter at Mbare Magistrates' Court for graduating with a Bachelor of Science in Counselling (Zimbabwe Open University).



Join us in congratulating our E-Filing Officer at Murambinda Magistrates' Court, **Ms Fauleen Tatenda Banda**, who graduated with a Master in Management Information Systems (Midlands State University).



Congratulations to an Assistant Clerk of Court, **Mr Kudzai Masukume** for graduating with a Bachelor of Arts in History and International Studies Honours Degree (Midlands State University).



A round of applause to **Ms Hildah Matasva**, Office Assistant who graduated with a Bachelor of Arts Honours Degree in Ethics and Organizational Leadership (Zimbabwe Open University).



Congratulations **Mr Pardon Muchabaiwa**, Provincial Security Officer (Mbare Magistrates' Court) for graduating with a Master of Science in Politics and International Relations (University of Zimbabwe).



Congratulations to **Ms Ngandu Rudo** (Shamva Magistrates' Court) who graduated with a Bachelor of Honours Degree in Human Resource and Labour Relations Management (Zimbabwe Open University).



Thumbs up to **Ms Yvette Pizula** (Supreme Court) who graduated with a Bachelor of Honours Degree in Human Resource and Labour Relations Management (Zimbabwe Open University).



We are excited to celebrate our Hardware and Network Specialist, **Mr Jackson Hweza** for graduating with a Master of Commerce in Information Systems (Midlands State University).



## INTEGRATED ELECTRONIC CASE MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

# ROAD MAP

### PHASE 3

#### • GENERAL DIVISION OF THE HIGH COURT:

- Civil Division,
- Criminal Division,
- Anti-Corruption Division,
- Electoral Division,
- Fiscal Appeals Division and
- the Legal Practitioners' Disciplinary Tribunal

#### • OFFICE OF THE SHERIFF OF THE HIGH COURT

**LAUNCHED ON 1 SEPTEMBER 2023**

### PHASE 4

#### MAGISTRATES' COURT

### PHASE 2

- LABOUR COURT
- ADMINISTRATIVE COURT

**LAUNCHED ON 1 FEBRUARY 2023**

### PHASE 1

- CONSTITUTIONAL COURT
- SUPREME COURT
- COMMERCIAL DIVISION OF THE HIGH COURT

**LAUNCHED ON 1 MAY 2022**

