

# THE MIRANDA



## Just News

SEPTEMBER 2020 | **21<sup>st</sup>** Edition

**JSC CONDUCTS PUBLIC INTERVIEWS FOR  
CONSTITUTIONAL COURT JUDGES**

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**MAGISTRATES UNDERGO RIGOROUS  
TRAINING**

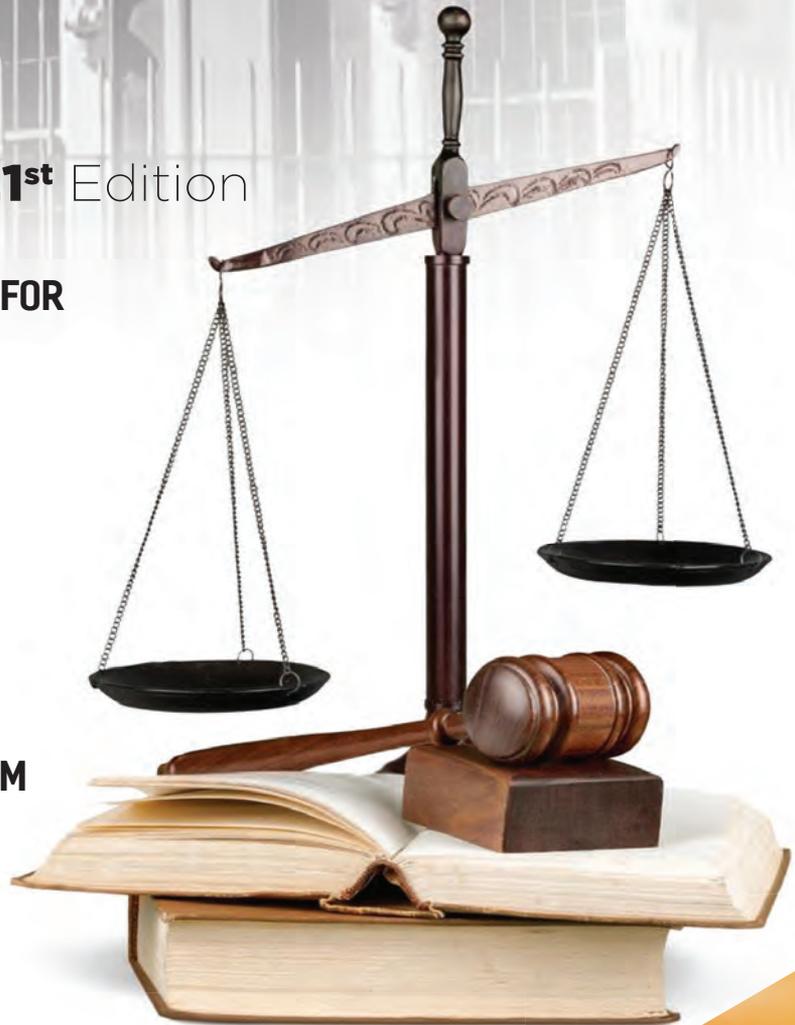
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# EDITOR'S NOTE

I am delighted to bring you this quarter's magazine. I am really encouraged by the feedback received from members in the justice delivery service system and all associated stakeholders in making this publication a success.

We don't call this magazine "The Miranda" for nothing. The magazine's name is a reflection of our commitment to be trendsetters. We try to live up to the name by telling interesting stories that no one else is telling – stories about issues we face as a profession, and cutting-edge areas of judicial service in Zimbabwe. Our profession is richer because of our colleagues who stand out, take risks, and work tirelessly for what they believe in.

This issue features several stories about outstanding developments and accomplishments from the preceding quarter. We celebrated the swearing in of four new Magistrates, we are seeing remarkable progress in the refurbishment of the Mount Darwin courthouse and the construction project at Lupane is taking impressive shape. Despite all the doom and gloom of our current economic period exacerbated by the Covid-19 pandemic, we are grateful for the continued support of our partners and stakeholders in ensuring the smooth-flow of our ongoing projects.

There seems to be an increasing level of confidence displayed by our members in practice, as well as our corporate partners who are keen to identify with the JSC brand as a marketing vehicle for their commercial products and services.

A new precedent is being set right here in the pages of the magazine itself. We have undergone a bit of a makeover thanks to our designers. We have updated our fonts and changed the design of some of our pages, but, it's still the same magazine. Many thanks to my fellow members in the Communication and Corporate Affairs department for all the work undertaken on surveys, feedback reports and for making this publication what it is.

Enjoy your read and remember to send through your feedback!

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<b>MASVINGO:</b>	<b>Rungano Victor Mahamadi</b> (Gutu Magistrates' Court)
<b>MANICALAND:</b>	<b>Rufaro Marira</b> (Mutare High Court), <b>Bruno Shora</b> (Rusape Magistrates' Court)
<b>MASHONALAND EAST:</b>	<b>Anxious Mbalanga</b> (Marondera Magistrates' Court)
<b>MASHONALAND CENTRAL:</b>	<b>Holder Mangumbi</b> (Bindura Magistrates' Court)
<b>MASHONALAND WEST:</b>	<b>Takesure Gora</b> (Chinhoyi Magistrates' Court)
<b>MATABELELAND SOUTH:</b>	<b>Servious Dube</b> (Gwanda Magistrates' Court)
<b>MATABELELAND NORTH:</b>	<b>Isaac Siakwiye</b> (Lupane Magistrates' Court)

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A newsletter for the Judicial Service Commission

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## FROM THE SECRETARY

**Mr Walter Chikwana**  
Secretary of the Judicial Service Commission

**T**he more mature generation would recall a song by the late Oliver Mtukudzi, *'Rufu ndimadzongonyodze'*. Later on, he was to collaborate with Winky D, and I am sure the younger generation can easily identify with another song themed on the same subject of death, in the emotional rendition, *'Panorwadza moyo'*. Both songs speak of how death robs us of our loved ones, and with it our plans, and our joy. Death has a capability of taking with it what you hold dear, in an unrelenting fashion and in one swipe. The worst part is that once it knocks on your doors, you can never negotiate with death.

**You can not stop it. You cannot say I was fully prepared for it. All you wish for is another day, and another chance to be with your loved ones, but once your fate is sealed, that is it. And I speak from experience.**

The Covid-19 pandemic has wreaked havoc not only in our beloved country but in the region and globally; loved ones have been lost in a manner and nature that have never been experienced. The pain and suffering brought to bear on human kind has been excruciating but as we reflect on this time, we must take note of the lessons learnt.

The Covid-19 pandemic has also induced lockdowns and reduction of numbers at the work place but at the same time, courts could not be closed because it is during such challenging times that courts should be available to protect fundamental human rights.

A new normal has now emerged; that of social distancing, wearing of face masks, sanitisation and washing of hands which are now a way of life. We need to religiously follow and comply with these requirements as they can be the difference between life and death to any one of us.

A new normal has also emerged in the manner we carry out tasks in ensuring that courts continue to operate at optimum levels. We are all expected to multi-task where one person may carry out tasks that are normally done by three persons, where the use of technology in the form of Zoom meetings and virtual courts has become the order of the day.

Covid-19 is therefore a reminder to us to love our dear ones when we still have them in our midst, to embrace the basics of hygiene in our everyday life, to embrace technology and most importantly, to work as a team as Team JSC.

We are now getting into the last quarter of the year. Let us seize the opportunity to reflect on our goals for the year and re-strategise where we need to so that those goals crystallise into reality.

It may be early days, but there is no better opportunity like this one to wish you, in advance, a Merry Christmas. Let us take time to appreciate the good things, no matter how few they may be, in our life. Most importantly, let us take time to be with our families. The fortunes may not be what we wish they were, but let that not take away the value we attach to our relationships. Let us treasure them.

I wish you a successful quarter ahead.



Honourable Chief Justice Luke Malaba



Some of the Judges who were interviewed for the five vacant posts

# JSC conducts *Public Interviews* for Constitutional Court Judges

BY LIVIAS MWANZA

**The Judicial Service Commission conducted public interviews on Monday the 28th of September 2020 to fill five vacancies on the Constitutional Court bench, taking a step towards complying with section 180 of the Constitution of Zimbabwe.**

“Judges are interviewed in line with section 180 of the Constitution of Zimbabwe which requires that whenever there is a vacancy for the position of judge, the JSC must declare that vacancy and advertise before calling for a public interview and the calling for public interviews is a demonstration for transparency and accountability on the part of the Judicial Service Commission, the people of Zimbabwe, the law and the Constitution,” said the JSC Secretary, Mr Walter Chikwana on the side-lines of the interviews.

In his opening remarks, the Chief Justice, Honourable Luke Malaba said the interviews came in the wake of the passage of the Constitution of Zimbabwe. Previously, judges of the Supreme Court held the dual responsibility of presiding over matters in both the Supreme Court and the Constitutional Court.

“In terms of section 166(1), the Constitutional Court is now supposed to consist of the Chief Justice, Deputy Chief Justice and five other judges reducing the full bench of the court from nine to seven judges. More significantly, the lapse of the seven years means that the Constitutional Court has been officially separated to function independently with its judges who will specifically preside over matters in the Constitutional Court.”

The Chief Justice gave an insight on how the COVID -19 pandemic and public health guidelines resulted in having a limited number of people in the venue.

For the benefit of the public,

**“In terms of section 166(1), the Constitutional Court is now supposed to consist of the Chief Justice, Deputy Chief Justice and five other judges reducing the full bench of the court from nine to seven judges. More significantly, the lapse of the seven years means that the Constitutional Court has been officially separated to function independently with its judges who will specifically preside over matters in the Constitutional Court.”**

the interviews were being streamed on ZBC TV and the JSC Facebook page and twitter which is a milestone move as technology progresses. The candidates interviewed were:

1. Hon. Mr Justice Energy Chinembiri Bhunu, JA
2. Hon. Mr Justice Paddington Shadreck Garwe, AJCC
3. Hon. Mrs Justice Anne Mary Gowora, AJCC
4. Hon. Mr Justice Ben Hlatshwayo, AJCC
5. Hon. Mrs Justice Rita Tambudzai Makarau, AJCC
6. Mr Smart Mirirai
7. Hon. Mr Justice Bharat Patel, AJCC
8. Hon. Mr Justice Hapias Zhou, J

The above nominees, all got a chance to present their knowledge, facts and arguments before the JSC Commissioners. The Judicial Service Commission, according to the Chief Justice, received thirteen nominations for the vacant Constitutional Court positions.

“However, in the process five candidates withdrew their candidature for personal reasons



Some of the JSC Commissioners who were interviewing the candidates

leaving eight candidates and interestingly there are candidates, Mr Smart Mirirai who is not a judge but worked in the police force and Hon. Mr Justice Hapiias Zhou, who came straight from the High Court to fight for the Con-Court seat.”

As Chief Justice Luke Malaba led the interviews, a dominant theme was the question around the backlog and reserved judgements in the Courts, with Commissioners noting the link between this issue and access to justice.

Speaking on the side-lines of the interviews, Professor Lovemore Madhuku gave an insight and general observation of how important it is to conduct the public interviews.

“It has been very important and inspiring that as Zimbabweans we are putting our Constitution in the form, the idea that judges are not appointed secretly shows that every Zimbabwean can



JSC Secretary Mr Walter Chikwana following proceedings

participate.”

The interviews were attended by the Permanent Secretary for Justice, Legal and Parliamentary Affairs, Mrs Virginia Mabhiza

and also by some senior lawyers Professor Lovemore Madhuku and Beatrice Mtetwa among others and were open to members of the public and the media.

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# Magistrates undergo rigorous training

BY BRIAN NKIWANE

**a** total of 18 Magistrates stationed in Mashonaland West and Midlands Provinces attended an intensive training workshop at Kadoma Hotel and Conference Centre recently.

The Magistrates were from Kadoma, Chegutu, Chinhoyi, Karoi, Kariba, Kwekwe and Gokwe.

The workshop, a brainchild and joint initiative of the Judicial Service Commission (JSC) and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) was the first of six other workshops lined up throughout the country meant to equip judicial officers (Magistrates) as well as refreshing their minds in most aspects of their day to day work in the courts of law.

Speaking at the official opening

of the first training workshop, JSC Deputy Secretary Support Services Mr Sithembinkosi Msipa challenged all the Magistrates who were present to keep upgrading themselves so that they remain relevant to changing times.

“The world is changing, therefore as judicial officers; we need to keep upgrading ourselves in an effort to remain relevant. There are new things that are coming into the profession; we need to keep refreshing our minds. We also need to extend our hand in thanking our partners in this project, UNDP for making sure everything is taken care of financially,” Mr. Msipa said.

A number of presenters that included two Judges, Honourable Justice Mawadze and Honourable Justice Muremba, Mr. Shana and the Chief Magistrate Mr. Munamato Mutevedzi presented on different topics.

Honourable Justice Muremba

“*There are new things that are coming into the profession; we need to keep refreshing our minds.*”



*Honourable Justice Muremba presenting on Sentencing in Kadoma recently*

spoke about Sentencing right from wording, reasons for sentencing, bringing into effect previously suspended sentences, restitution among other things.

It was Mr. Shana who then took the Magistrates through the process of sentencing jurisdiction, types of sentences available, pre-sentencing inquiries, dealing with minimum mandatory sentences as well as enforcement of sentence altered on review and appeal.

The Chief Magistrate presented on referrals to the Constitutional Court and case management.



*Judicial Service Commission Deputy Secretary Support Services Mr. S. Msipa officially opening the Magistrates training workshop that was held at Kadoma Hotel and Conference Centre recently.*

# Bulawayo Master's Office moves to Cape to Cairo Master's House



The new home for the Bulawayo Master of the High Court

Miranda Correspondent

**The Judicial Service Commission (JSC) has moved its Bulawayo Master of the High Court Office to its newly renovated building Cape to Cairo as from the 1st of September 2020.**

The JSC had for a long time been making frantic efforts to provide the Master of the High Court in Bulawayo with its own building, thus moving out of the ZB Life Building where they had been housed.

Cape to Cairo, a renowned building, had been closed for a long time until such a time that the JSC bought the building, renovated it and turned it into offices of the Master of the High Court Bulawayo.

Known for being the home of live jazz music, Cape to Cairo will now be known as the home of the Master of the High Court, and will now be called "The Cape to Cairo Master's House".

The new building is situated at corner Robert Mugabe and Leopold Takawira Avenue in the Bulawayo Central Business District.

The Master's Office has the mandate to execute the following, among others; administration of estates of deceased and insolvent persons, protection and administration of funds of minors, persons lacking legal competence and capacity; known and unknown, absent and untraceable heirs which have been paid into the Guardian's Fund.

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# Judges attend End of Second Term Symposium



Honourable Chief Justice Luke Malaba

By Miranda Correspondent

**The End of Second Term Judges' Symposium was held from the 17th to the 20th of September 2020 at the TROUTBECK Resort in Nyanga under the theme "Guaranteeing Access to Justice in the context of COVID-19".**

Due to COVID 19, the Symposium had to be held both virtually and physically, with virtual presentations from the UNDP Resident Representative, the Special Rapporteur on the Independence of Judges and Lawyers, Justice Agnes Murgu from Kenya and a UNDP expert, Tafadzwa Muvingi.

Opening the Symposium, Chief Justice Luke Malaba said the forum plays an important role in developing the skills of the judicial officer.

"This forum serves a dual function, firstly it is an opportunity for the Judiciary to come together to collectively review, reflect and refine our approach to the discharge of our constitutional mandate."

The Chief Justice added that it is a opportunity to develop skills as judicial officers, which is part of continuing professional development.

The UNDP Resident Representative to Zimbabwe Mr Georges Van Montfort congratulated the Commission for its

commitment to continuously train Judicial Officers.

"Let me therefore begin by applauding the Judiciary and the Judicial Service Commission for your commitment to continuous learning and growth, even under these difficult circumstances."

Mr. Van Montfort emphasized on three key points:

**Key message 1:-** Access to justice remains essential especially under this COVID-19 Pandemic. The judiciary retains a primary position in society, not least as the check and balance of the actions of the other branches of Government.

**Key message 2:-** Adopt relevant ICT and Technologies to remain a relevant judiciary. The COVID-19 pandemic provides an opportunity for the judiciary to introspect and examine ways in which it can become more efficient and agile.

**Key message 3:-** Available support and commitment from UNDP. In support of this, UNDP Zimbabwe is partnering with the Judicial Service Commission on key activities such as the development of the upcoming 5-year strategy (2021-2025) whose key focus is on enabling transformative technologies for justice delivery.

In addition, Mr Van Montfort said the UNDP has agreed to support the introduction of virtual capabilities to the courts across the country recognising the equilibrium needed for containment of the spread of COVID-19,

promotion of access to justice and the rule of law.

The Special Rapporteur on the Independence of Judges and Lawyers Mr. Diego Garcia-Sayán touched on increasing the support and guaranteeing independence of justice and bringing Judges closer to the people.

"An immediate streamline on the services being provided by the justice systems is advisable. Innovation and development of online technology for courts operation is fundamental. Last but not least increased resources must be redirected from approaches that are ineffective or that are exacerbating injustice."

UNDP Head of Governance Programme Mrs Tafadzwa Muvingi said there are noticeable impacts of COVID-19 to the functioning of the global justice system.

"Courts are closing, reducing, or adjusting their operations, which can negatively impact the provision of timely and fair hearings, contribute to increased case backlogs, and lead to increased length of judicial and administrative proceedings."

The Chief Justice, Hon Luke Malaba, Deputy Chief Justice Hon Elizabeth Gwaunza, Justice Rita Makarau AJCC, Justice Paddington Garwe AJCC, Justice Bharat Patel AJCC and Justice Anne-Mary Gowora among other judges gave presentations on different topics with emphasis on judicial independence and integrity.



The picture combo shows Judges following proceedings during the Judges Symposium in Nyanga recently

## New Magistrates Biographies

# Four

## new Magistrates sworn-in



**Standing from left:** Blessings Tsingano, Caroline Tafadzwa Matanga, Talent Mutasa and Busani Sibanda. **Seated:** Chief Magistrate Munamato Mutevedzi

By Stephen Gwatsvaira

**F**our new Magistrates were sworn in at the Harare Magistrate Court (Rotten Row), in a development that is likely to assist in clearing the backlog in the country's judicial system.

The newly sworn in magistrates are Mr. Blessing Tsingano (38), Mr Busani Sibanda (47), Ms. Caroline Matanga (33) and Ms. Talent Mutasa (25).

Chief Magistrate Mr. Munamato Mutevedzi presided over the ceremony which was graced by representatives from different government departments that included the legal fraternity, Zimbabwe Republic Police (ZRP) and Zimbabwe Prison and Correctional Services (ZPCS).

Speaking to this publication after the swearing-in ceremony, the Chief Magistrate said the new additions were going to help in easing the backlog in the judicial system.

"I am happy to have sworn-in the new members that are joining the bench. These will help the entire system in fighting the backlog that has become a big problem in the system," Mr. Mutevedzi said.

01

**CAROLINE TAFADZWA MATANGA:**  
MAGISTRATE-GWANDA



Caroline Tafadzwa Matanga was born in Harare on 16 January 1987. She did her primary education at Alfred Beit Primary School in Harare from 1993 to 1999. She proceeded to St. Dominics Secondary School in Chishawasha, Harare where she did her Ordinary level education from 2000 to 2003. After finishing Ordinary Level, she proceeded to St. Ignatius College in Chishawasha, Harare for her Advanced Level from 2004 to 2005. Caroline Tafadzwa Matanga enrolled for a Bachelor of Laws Degree at the University of Fort Hare; South Africa in 2007 and completed her studies in 2010. She joined Danziger and Partners as a Legal Intern from June to December 2011. Thereafter, she got employed as a Public Prosecutor with the National Prosecuting Authority in January 2013 to September 2019. She then joined the Judicial Service Commission as a Judge's Assistant. She was stationed at Harare High Court and later transferred to Masvingo High Court assisting Honourable Zisengwe J. up to March 2020 when she was appointed as a Magistrate.

02

**BLESSINGS TSINGANO**  
MAGISTRATE-GWERU

Blessings Tsingano was born in Harare on 22 April 1982. He did his primary education at Glen-View Primary School. He then proceeded to Churchill High School in Harare where he did his Ordinary Level from 1996 – 1999. In 2003, April he joined the Ministry of Justice as a Judges' Clerk. He was stationed at Bulawayo High Court assisting Hon Takuva J up until 1st April 2020 when he was appointed as a Magistrate. Blessings Tsingano enrolled for a Bachelor of Laws Degree at the Midlands State University in 2015 and completed in 2019.



03

**TALENT MUTASA**  
MAGISTRATE-MBARE

Talent Mutasa was born in Masvingo on 12 February 1995. She did her primary education at Chamarare Primary School in Masvingo from 2001 to 2007. She proceeded to Ndarama High School in Masvingo where she did her Ordinary and Advanced Level from 2008 to 2013. Talent Mutasa enrolled for a Bachelor of Laws Honours Degree at the University of Zimbabwe in 2014 and completed her studies in 2018. She joined Chinawa Law Chambers as a Legal Intern from September 2018 to February 2019. Thereafter, she joined Coghlan, Welsh and Guest Legal Practitioners from March 2019 to June 2019. On 1 September 2019, she joined the Judicial Service Commission as a Professional Research Assistant and was stationed at the Judicial Service Commission Secretariat. On 1 April 2020, she was appointed as a Magistrate.



04

**BUSANI SIBANDA**  
MAGISTRATE-GOKWE



Busani Sibanda was born in Filabusi on the 12th of November 1973. He did his primary education at Nyamapfukudza Primary School from 1981 to 1987 and then proceeded to Nyamapfukudza High School where he did his Ordinary Level from 1988 to 1991. Mr Sibanda later enrolled for a Diploma in Applied Language Studies at Lupane State University in 2008 and graduated in 2010. He thereafter enrolled for a Diploma in Court Interpreting and Translation at the same university from 2010 to 2012. In 2014, he enrolled with the University of South Africa (UNISA) for a Higher Certificate in Law which he completed in 2016. In 2016 he enrolled for a Bachelor of Laws Degree with the same university and graduated in 2019. He joined the then Ministry of Justice as a Court Interpreter in 1994 stationed at Harare Magistrates' Court. He was promoted to a Senior Court Interpreter in 1998 and was stationed at High Court of Zimbabwe in Harare. In 2002, he was promoted to the office of the Principal Court Interpreter. He became the Chief Court Interpreter for the Superior Courts in April 2008, a position which he held up to the time of his appointment as a Magistrate on the 1st of April 2020.

# Zimbabwe head of Prisons *Zimondi* Retires

## By Own Correspondent

**Z**IMBABWE Prisons and Correctional Services (ZPCS) Commissioner-General Retired Major General Paradzayi Willings Zimondi retires this November after serving for more than two decades.

Commissioner General Zimondi passes on the baton to one of his deputies Deputy Commissioner General Moses Cyril Ngawaite Chihobvu following his appointment recently by His Excellency, the President of Zimbabwe, Cde Emmerson Dambudzo Mnangagwa. Deputy Commissioner Chihobvu has been Acting Commissioner General following Commissioner General Zimondi's three months pre-retirement leave. He assumes office on 1 November 2020 as substantive Commissioner General.

The outgoing Commissioner General Zimondi leaves behind a transformed correctional organisation whose mandate was enhanced to give more emphasis towards the rehabilitation of the offender. Zimbabwe Prisons and Correctional Service transitioned from Zimbabwe Prison Service (ZPS) following the new Zimbabwean Constitution that came into effect in 2013.

The incoming Commissioner General Chihobvu has promised to drive forward the rehabilitation of the offender agenda in keeping with the works of his predecessor to be Commissioner General Zimondi.

In an interview recently following his appointment, incoming Commissioner General Chihobvu, who was nurtured by Commissioner General Zimondi expressed gratitude to President Mnangagwa for elevating him to the helm of ZPCS.

"I am so excited and thankful to His Excellency the President and Commander-In-Chief of the Zimbabwe Defence Forces for

appointing and bestowing on me the trust to take over the reins of leading the ZPCS. I am really prepared to work with all people who wish to see the success of ZPCS."

"As ZPCS we have an open-door policy



Outgoing Commissioner General (Rtd) Major General Zimondi

and I hope to work with all stakeholders with the same agility and professionalism that was nurtured by my predecessor to be Major General (Rtd) Zimondi.

**“The objectives remain the same and I will carry on from where my predecessor left in pursuing offender rehabilitation with vigour, thus equipping inmates with various life survival skills, which will transform them into law-abiding citizens when they are released from prison,” he said.**

He said this vision would not be complete without increased production in prison farms to achieve self-sufficiency as well as in workshops to impart relevant

life skills to inmates in preparation for life after release calling for concerted efforts in offender rehabilitation.

"Ideally, as ZPCS with all the labour, land and farming expertise, we should be seen producing enough food for inmates all year round plus surplus for sale, but production has been extremely low over the years due to financial constraints, low rainfall due to climate change and lack of resources especially inputs and mechanised equipment", the incoming Commissioner General said.

Dep Comm-Gen Chihobvu joined ZPCS in 1999 following his secondment from Zimbabwe National Army (ZNA) and was appointed Personal Staff Officer to the Commissioner of Prisons.

His illustrious service saw him rising through the senior ranks and serving as Chief Staff Officer Security and Protocol, Assistant Commissioner Security and Protocol, Senior Assistant Commissioner Rehabilitation and Officer Commanding Manicaland Region,



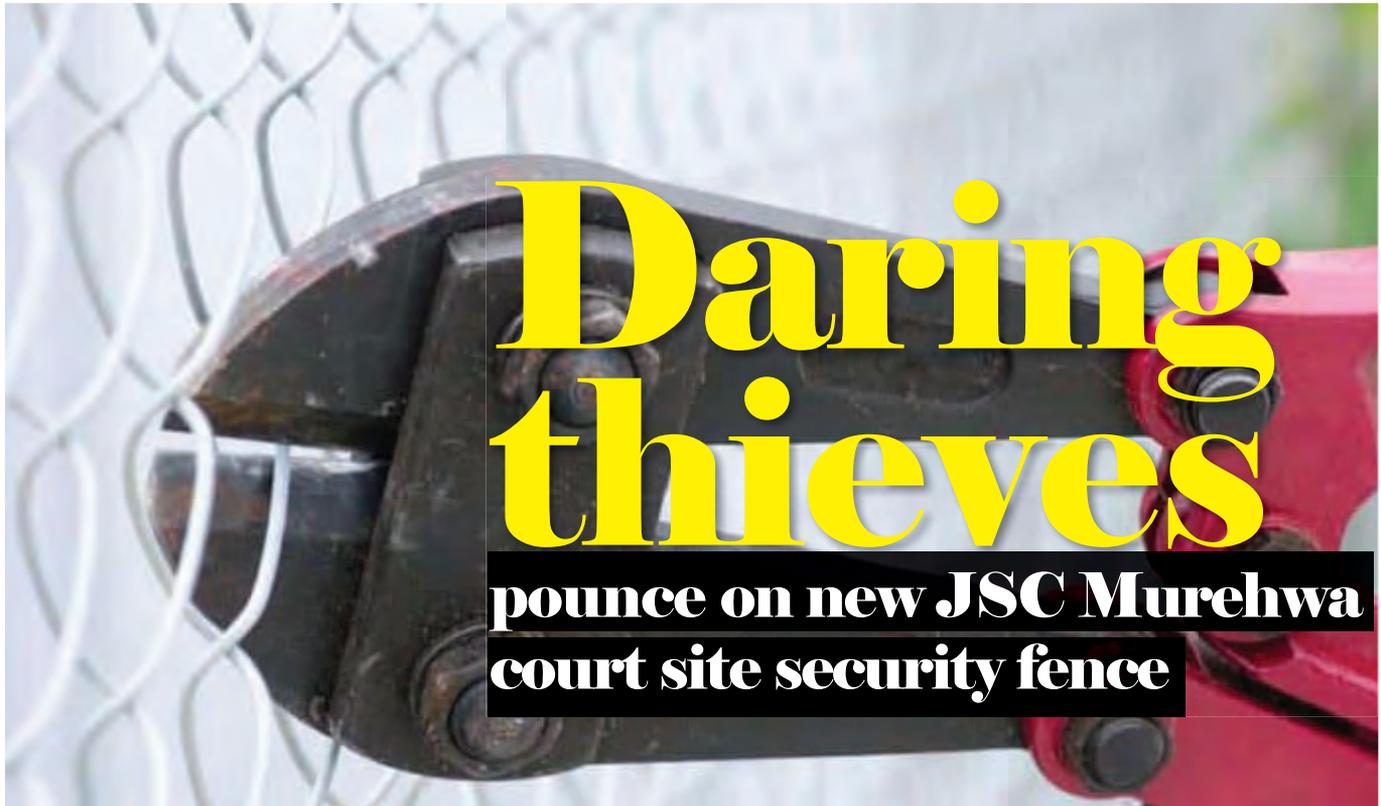
Incoming Commissioner General MCN Chihobvu

before becoming Deputy Commissioner-General in charge of correctional services.

A holder of a Master of Science in Strategic Management Degree and a BSC (Hon) degree in Management and Entrepreneurial Studies among several other qualifications, the incoming prison head brings vast experience in the realm of corrections.

He is a liberation war veteran who joined the struggle in December 1977 and did a platoon commander's course in Sarajevo in the former Yugoslavia.

He was attested into the Zimbabwe National Army at independence and held various positions. He participated in the Mozambique Campaign and in the peacekeeping mission in Angola with Unavem III. He also holds a Diploma in Combined Strategic Intelligence from the United States.



# Daring thieves

**pounce on new JSC Murehwa court site security fence**

By Brian Nkiwanc

**a**n unconfirmed number of daring thieves pounced on the new Judicial Service Commission (JSC) Murehwa court site security fence which was put in place recently, the *Miranda* can report.

Two weeks after installation, by one of the country's best wire manufacturers, Fence and Frame Zimbabwe, the thieves helped themselves to 100 metres of 2.4 x 50mm x 2.5m diamond mesh wire.

However, a total of 54 metres of the wire was recovered while the remainder could not be found.

The theft incident happened on the 14th of March 2020 and was reported at Murehwa Police station under Cr 154/03/20.

According to representatives from both the ZRP and JSC, none of the accused persons were apprehended. One of the police officers who was involved in handling the matter said the thieves could not be apprehended.

"Lady Luck ran out for the daring thieves when they came back to take their loot. The guards who are now guarding the place intercepted them when they came back to transport their loot and managed to recover the said amount of mesh wire.

**"We have since put our security guards at the new Murehwa Court site. Very soon we will be doing renovations to the fence and start putting structures, especially the guard room is of paramount importance for now..."**



Judicial Service Commission (JSC) employee Terence Machedzwe (right), two Fence and Frame Zimbabwe employees and a police officer measuring the recovered mesh wire at Murehwa Police station recently.

Unfortunately the thieves ran away," said the police officer.

Speaking to the *Miranda* team in Murehwa, a representative from JSC said they have since moved in and made sure the place is guarded every time.

"We have since put our security guards at the new Murehwa Court site. Very soon, we will be doing renovations to the fence and start putting structures, especially the guard room," said the representative.



Fence and Frame Zimbabwe employees measuring the length of the stolen mesh wire.

# 3rd Quarter IN PICTURES



Members from ZRP Murehwa, JSC and Fence and Frame Zimbabwe measure some of the recovered mesh wire at Murehwa Police Station recently



Chief Magistrate Munamato Mutevedzi swearing-in some of the new Magistrates who joined the bench recently



JSC staff members took part in the National Clean-up exercise recently



Some of the Judges following proceedings during the Judges' Symposium held in Nyanga recently



The picture combo above shows scenes from the recently held Judges' Interviews



Participants of the Kadoma Magistrates' training workshop



The team from Zaka Magistrates' Court pictured during the Head Count exercise



The team from Bikita Magistrates' Court pictured during the Head Count exercise



A worker putting final touches at the new Chinhoi Court house



JSC Secretariat team led by Mr Muzenda bidding farewell to Mrs Chimbwanda



Magistrates' training workshop in Kadoma

# JSC Lupane, Mt Darwin, Chinhoyi Courthouses projects on course

have proved beyond doubt that they are capable of supervising the project. Of course, there could have been some teething challenges in the initial stages, but the building, like the rising sun in summer, is slowly coming up.

When it all started, the construction of the courthouse was earmarked to be complete by year end. This is no longer possible due to the effects of the Covid-19 pandemic.

When the Government announced the national Lockdown containment measures

**The construction of the courthouse is therefore a welcome development, as this will improve the conditions of the staff and the services they provide to the community.**



Workers at Lupane new court site going through their daily work routine

By Isaac Siakwiye and Holder Magumbi

**A** journey of a thousand mile begins with a single step. This is the common saying for all successful enterprises or projects which befits the Lupane Magistrate Courthouse construction journey.

The construction site was identified. Logistics towards the initial developments were put in place. Construction started in earnest when all the necessary materials were availed. At the time of going to print, brickwork for the foundation was complete and men at work were swiftly moving to the slab level.

This therefore is the extent to which management involved in the construction

in March 2020, work stopped as well like any other sector thereby affecting the projected period of completion. Work at the construction site however resumed on the 1st of June 2020 following the easing of some of the national lockdown conditions by the Government.

Lupane Magistrates' Court has been operating from the District Administrator's Complex since its inception as a District court. The challenges associated with the leased offices include among them limited



JSC Deputy Secretary Support Services Mr S Msipa and other staff members look on while one of the workers at Chinhoyi new court building puts final touches on the window seals.



Front view of the new Chinhoyi Court building



Engineers from Public Works Department addressing workers and JSC staff members at the Mt Darwin Court site.

office space. Currently there are two offices; one for the Resident Magistrate and the other is shared among the rest of the support staff.

The construction of the court house is therefore a welcome development, as this will improve the working conditions of the staff and the services they provide to the community.

There are three outlying stations Binga, Lupane and Victoria Falls with Hwange being the administrative centre for the JSC Matabeleland North Province. When Binga and Victoria Falls Magistrates' Courts projects were undertaken, Lupane Court was left out due to funding challenges.

Meanwhile the refurbishment of Hwange Provincial Magistrates' Court building was a huge success. Hwange underwent a major facelift after baboons literally scavenged for prey like termites and scorpions on the rooftop of the court building, resulting in the roof and tiles being damaged.

In yet another development, the Chinhoyi courthouse project is nearing completion.

JSC Deputy Secretary Support Services Sithembinkosi Msipa and Chief Magistrate Munamato Mutevedzi recently led a team comprising heads of departments from different divisions within JSC who had gone to monitor progress and allocation of offices at the new site.

In pursuit of world class justice, the Judicial Service Commission (JSC) is leaving no stone unturned in as far as refurbishment of its infrastructure is concerned.

In 2019, the Commission engaged into overdrive gear refurbishing various court

houses and construction of new courts country wide. Mt Darwin has been amongst the beneficiaries of the programme.

After bearing the brunt of working in a condemned building whose ceiling was sagging and making do with sharing of offices, JSC staff members and other stakeholders housed at Mt Darwin have every reason to smile as the new court house nears completion.

Judicial Service Commission (JSC) Secretary Mr Walter Chikwana toured the new Mt Darwin courthouse project which is under construction to assess progress. It was evident from the tour that work was

90 percent complete. Mr. Chikwana also recommended that a major facelift be done to the old court building.

Speaking at the site, the Secretary he expressed satisfaction on the progress made so far despite strict lockdown regulations by the Government and challenges experienced by the contractor.

Provincial Magistrate Mr Tinashe Ndokera told the Miranda that they expect work to be complete anytime soon.

"We have a target; I hope we can meet it. The work is nearing completion since we are only left with glazing, tiling and fixing electricals".

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**“We have a target; I hope we can meet it. The work is nearing completion since we are only left with glazing, tiling and fixing electricals”.**



JSC Secretary Mr Walter Chikwana inspects progress at the Mt Darwin Court site



Inside the Victim Friendly Courtroom

# Revisiting the Victim Friendly Court

By Bruno Shora

**M**any people will be forgiven for thinking that courts are amongst the list of some of the most frightening and feared places in the world.

Such other places may include prisons, hospital death beds and cemeteries. This belief is brought by the notion that sorrow hovers around all these places. But why is it that a court of law which dispenses justice, instead of bringing joy and smiles on the faces of many may in some instances be deemed to be a source of sorrow by some?

Surely, a court room is no playground at all. Common features in there include serious and no nonsense-faced magistrates wearing either red or black robes, heavily built members of security services, police and prison officers' criss-crossing the court room at various intervals, accused persons in their khaki regalia, prosecutors and interpreters clad in dark suits as well as intimidating lawyers, packed gallery and infamous room architecture, usually a square or rectangle with high walls, small windows, much closer to the elevated roof.

The language, is more like tongues which certainly requires an interpretation. In the car park, amongst other cars, you may notice a big van, usually grey in colour. Its windows have got some burglar bars, -always on standby, to whisk someone away on a journey which does not have a return ticket. On its way out, what you can only see through its windows are eyes eager to see the outside world and some finger tips protruding through the mesh wire. The sight is unbearable.

The situation can be worse for someone whose privacy, dignity, sexual and reproductive rights might have been violated in a gruesome way, but still being required

to appear before a court of law and testify the much-needed evidence. The situation can be near-fatal if one might have to find him/herself testifying against his/her own biological father, brother, uncle or a neighbour.

It is even more complicated if the victim happens to be a minor, in some cases plus or minus the age of five.

Authorities thus understood the plight of victims especially in cases of a sexual nature, hence the Zimbabwe justice system moved in to adopt the Victim Friendly Court System. This is a concept which is aimed at ensuring that the entire process of administering justice in sexual offences is friendly, especially to the victims, who are deemed to be vulnerable. In a way, this demystifies the perception of a frightening court system part of which has been explained above.

The system does not start at the courts, it starts from the very moment a report is filed with the police's Victim Friendly Unit. As to what happens there, well, that is a story for another day, let's get back to the courts.

A Public Prosecutor hands over the vulnerable witness to a Court Intermediary. A court Intermediary executes a delicate task of handling such vulnerable witnesses and serves in-between the court and the witness. In some cases, he or she acts as a buffer or shock absorber. He or she does this by speaking to the witnesses, usually minors, in a language they understand.

Before rushing to court, rapport has to be first established with the witness. This is a process which tries to make the witness acclimatise with the court environment, the system and the people. This can be minutes, hours, days or weeks before the trial kicks off, and that depends on the varying psychologies of vulnerable witnesses.

During this process, the witness is also taken into a very special room known as the "Separate Room". This room is special in the



sense that it is different from an ordinary room. The walls are colourfully painted and nicely decorated. The furniture is not the office-type, but something a bit relaxed and welcoming, nice sofas, a good carpet, toys, charts amongst other things. In this Separate Room, one will see special dolls, which one might never come across in any shop. They are called anatomically correct dolls. They have everything which is found upon a human being. Yes, I mean everything, except the breath of life. These, at times are very handy when it comes to demonstrating what could have happened when a sexual offence was committed. During good times, some refreshments are also made available.

A closed-circuit television (CCTV) is also mounted in this same room and it enables the court to see and hear what will be taking place in the Separate Room whilst the Court Intermediary can also follow court proceedings through the use of headphones and a microphone.

In essence, during trials, many vulnerable witnesses have been able to comfortably give their evidence from the Separate Room without going through the agony of testifying in an intimidating environment whilst facing the perpetrator. Thus, the Victim Friendly Court System has seen many survivors effectively giving their evidence to the court and with such cases being expeditiously dealt with.

The Judicial Service Commission (JSC) has been so serious and committed to this initiative as it even went an extra mile to establish the office of Victim Friendly Court System National Coordinator. This officer coordinates efforts of various stakeholders involved in the handling of sexual abuse cases in line and compliance with the protocol document on child sexual abuse, which offers a multi-sectorial approach in the fight against child sexual abuse. Other stakeholders involved include the Department of Social Welfare, Ministry of Health and Child Care, Ministry of Primary and Secondary Education, Non-Governmental Organisations, the Police, just to mention, but a few.

Whilst efforts by several stakeholders who are part of the Victim Friendly System are very much commendable and appreciated, issues like food, transport and overnight accommodation for witnesses still pose a headache to the system.



## Small animals *poaching cases* *rampant* in Mwenezi



By Brian Nkiwane

**a** t a time when the country's judicial system is overwhelmed by a number of cases involving informal money changers (MaChange money/ osiphatheleni), Mwenezi community has its own fair share of problems as small animal poaching cases are on the rise.

According to latest statistics gathered by this publication, 80 percent of cases that are heard at Mwenezi Magistrates' Court involve small animals poaching. These small animals include kudu, impala and warthogs, among others.

Speaking to the Miranda crew, Mwenezi Magistrates' Court Provincial Magistrate Honesty Musiyiwa, said conservancies are like "gold" in gold rich areas, hence small animals tend to be a source of livelihood for most people in Mwenezi.

The area has two big conservancies, Nuanetsi and Malangani Ranches.

"So in most cases, people poach small animals in these two big ranches. Like I have said before, animal meat has become a source of livelihood for many people around this area. So at times, they end up hunting in protected areas leading to arrests," he said.

Asked about sentences for such cases, Mr Musiyiwa had this to say, "Usually we are guided by the Parks and Wildlife Act. When a person is arrested for killing one animal, usually the offender qualifies for community service which is provided by the Act. At times the cases might be different altogether if the accused person kills more than one animal at one go, then a stiffer sentence might be given," Mr Musiyiwa said

# Outstanding ambience

## at Mberengwa, Mwenezi, Bikita stations

By Brian Nkiwane

**M**berengwa district is approximately right in the middle of a semi-arid Midlands province where water is a nightmare, but Mberengwa Magistrates' Court has defied the odds and ranks among court stations that have an outstanding ambience, that also include Mwenezi and Bikita despite all being in low veld provinces.

Arriving at Mberengwa Magistrates Court main entrance, one is greeted by friendly security guards who are always on standby to make sure that the rules and regulations of Level Two Lockdown are adhered to as per the Government directive.

When entering the Court premises, one gets in through a small pedestrian gate. Straight from the entrance, there is a clearly marked and paved pathway that leads you right to the



Flowers resembling "a big pot" at Mberengwa Magistrates' Courts

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**For us, it's everyone's responsibility to make sure that our place is clean. We still feel we can do much better than this. Visit us in the next six months, you will be surprised.**

entrance of the court building and any other building that includes ablution facilities for other court users which are on the southern end of the court yard.

Right along the paved pathway, are flowers that resemble "a big pot that is closed with a lid that has a handle on top".

This is the extraordinary work of Isheanesu Chiwawa, a middle aged man who joined the Judicial Service Commission (JSC) as an office orderly.

But it was because of the leadership eye of Mberengwa Magistrates' Court Provincial Magistrate Evia Matura that she managed to see that Chiwawa had passion for gardening and had to do a "swap deal done in heaven" with Mercy Nyoni who joined as a general hand.

"Tell you what, Chiwawa joined as the office orderly while Nyoni joined as the general hand. After working with them for some time I realised their duties were kind of opposing each other," said Matura with a smile.

She added, "Having realised their strengths, as a team we agreed that the two



*Welcome to Mwenezi Court: Flower beds at Mwenezi Magistrates' Court*

swap duties, with Chiwawa now doing what he enjoys best, gardening while Nyoni also does what she enjoys, cleaning and other office duties.

Mberengwa is known for being one of the dry areas in the Midlands province, but this has not been a stumbling block to the small Mberengwa Magistrates' Court team.

"It has been difficult to get water for our flowers and other station uses, but we told ourselves that we need to be among the best in terms of how our station looks. Thanks to the JSC Secretary Mr Walter Chikwana, JSC recently drilled a borehole here but the unfortunate thing is they are taking time to install pumps so that we can start using water from the new water source. Now that we have our own water sources, expect more in terms of our ambience," Matura said.

It was not easy for the Head Count team to locate Mwenezi Magistrates' Court station due to the non-availability of road signs right from the Masvingo-Beitbridge highway, but one does not have to be hoodwinked into thinking that the station is in shambles as well, a big No.

Mwenezi is right in Masvingo province



*Flower beds at Mwenezi Magistrates' Court*

which usually experiences low to moderate rainfall, but again, the non-availability of rainfall has proved not to be a hindrance to the Mwenezi Magistrates' Court team in terms of keeping their environs immaculate.

The station, over seen by Provincial Magistrate Honesty Masiyiwa, has yet another groundsman who has been doing wonders with the assistance of other team members.

When one gets to the entrance, they quickly meet green lawn, well cut to the required size, and flowers beds designed in such a way that they seem to be welcoming visitors, "WELCOME TO MWENEZI COURT".

It is just a marvel to watch.

"We are in Masvingo province yes but we do not have water problems here. We have a borehole and a big tank, so there is no reason for us to complain. The groundsman with the assistance of other team members have been doing all they can to keep this place nice as it is. You are yet to see our best," proclaimed Musiyiwa.

Not to be out done is Bikita Magistrates' Court in Bikita.

The Provincial Magistrate Caroline Tafira Nyoni has also made sure that the station keeps pace with the leading pack in terms of ambience.

"We have water here so there is no reason why we should not have this in place. We have been working as a team to keep this station as it looks. We need to show the world out there that world class justice prevails here," said Nyoni with a smile.

She added, "For us, it's everyone's responsibility to make sure that our place is clean. We still feel we can do much better than this. Visit us in the next six months, you will be surprised."



*Bikita Magistrate Court building*

# The history of Recording in Courts

**Court recording is a function which is performed by an official known as a Court Recorder who is vested with the responsibility of operating recording machines during court proceedings. A court Recorder also technically facilitates effective communication during the Victim Friendly Court (VFC) trials in which there will be use of Closed Circuit Television in a Separation room.**

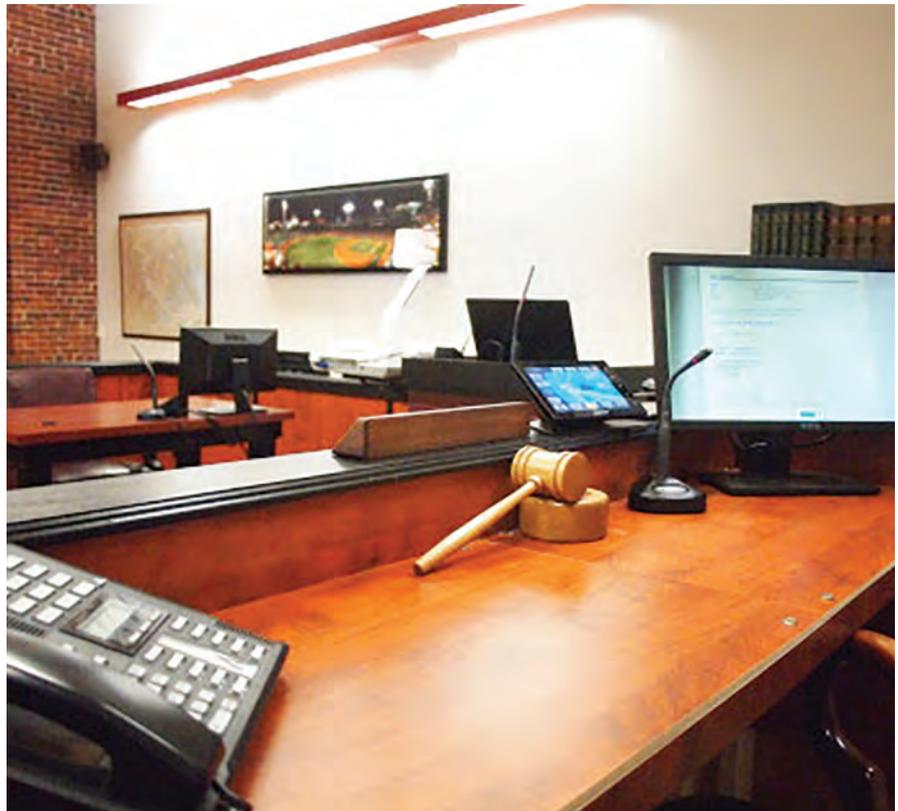
By Bruno Shora

**I**f one was to liken the justice delivery system to an engine, one would come across a component called “court recording” being an integral part of the justice delivery engine.

In simple terms, without court recording, the “justice delivery system engine” can never be said to be in a perfect state. This is then qualified by the fact that a court is known to be “a court of record” thus demonstrating the need for a record of proceedings to be maintained, if possible, in its original raw state.

Although court officials, in the persons of Magistrates’, Lawyers, Prosecutors and may be the media as well are known to be good at capturing and writing down notes from the moment a “speaker” opens his or her mouth to address the court, this narrative shall have a bias towards audio recording of court proceedings thereby qualifying the importance of court recording.

Court recording is a function which is performed by an official known as a Court Recorder who is vested with the responsibility of operating recording machines during court proceedings. A court Recorder also technically facilitates effective communication during the Victim Friendly Court (VFC) trials in which there will be use of closed circuit television in a Separation



*Recording equipment found in a court room*

room. After recording the proceedings, the Court Recorder will then go through a process known as “exporting” whose purpose is to transfer the recorded audio data from a Central Processing Unit (CPU) to a flash disk for purposes of “transcription”.

Transcription is a process of converting audio data into print, through listening and

typing. This task is executed by an official known as a Transcriber and it requires a great listening skills and a lot of typing speed.

Such a transcribed version of court proceedings becomes very handy when it comes to reviews of court procedures and appeal cases before Judges at superior



*Court recording equipment*

courts. There is a deliberate reliance on transcribed versions, the reason being that they tend to offer a more accurate reflection of what would have really transpired in court during trial.

In some isolated cases, during court trials, arguments amongst parties tend to rise due to various reasons. It could be over who said what. It could be an argument over the “Interpreter’s version” or someone may start to claim that certain things were said in court, things which everybody else did not hear. Besides, it is also part of human nature that at times they don’t hear properly, in some worst cases, they deny things which they would have said before. In some other scenarios, a speaker is asked to repeat what he or she once said. Guess what, they will give a different version altogether. To put to rest such heated arguments, the Magistrate will simply direct the Court Recorder to play back the relevant part through some audio speakers. This is the stage which has left many accused persons either frozen, stone-faced or white washed in court.

In order to get a better understanding of Court Recording, The Miranda engaged Court Recorders themselves, the journey they have travelled in executing such an important function in the justice delivery system. The team had a privilege to meet a senior veteran Court Recorder who has served behind the recording machine for more than three decades now. Speaking on condition of anonymity, the court recorder shared some fascinating history of court recording in Zimbabwe.

The Court Recorder indicated that some years back, stretching from the colonial era, courts would outsource recording services from private companies. The Miranda learnt that at some point, such services were offered by a private company known as Nass & Company. The Court Recorder even recalled that when he started working in that capacity, he was actually working for this private company.



**It was sometime around 1981, that the government did not renew Nass & Company’s contract to offer recording services in Zimbabwean courts. The government arranged for its own recording services and it was Mr Schofield and Mr Mavhenyengwa who oversaw this transition on behalf of the government. This saw the acquisition of some new cassette recording machines.”**

The Court Recorder explained that this was the time when some of them were



*Portable voice recorders*

absorbed by the ministry, and today, he still serves the Judicial Service Commission with unwavering loyalty and diligence.

Recording services in the Judicial Service Commission in most cases are so reliable and dependable such that even some other independent Constitutional Commissions have found such services a force to reckon with when they conduct public hearings or enquiries.

With some dynamism in technology, recording court proceedings on cassettes has now become a thing of the past. Now it is done by computer operated machines with data being stored on flash disks, memory cards or any related devices. This enables the Court Recorder, the Transcriber or even the court to playback any specific part of court proceedings.

Nevertheless, some jurisdictions now have even more sophisticated recording machines, some with the ability to record and transcribe, almost simultaneously.

# Of impersonations, *bogus social media* accounts and fake news



## BY OWN CORRESPONDENT

**T**he advent of the internet has come with so much convenience. Previous communication methods have been replaced by faster, accessible and less laborious methods of information dissemination. One's voice can reach millions of people at a touch of a button - or just a click of an icon.

Between social media, podcasts, online news and traditional news there are a lot of people with so much to say. Unfortunately, it can be hard to get the truth of what is really going on.

This challenge has affected everyone.

But as the old adage says, with great power, comes great responsibility.

**“Many people across the world, including Zimbabweans, have been misled by social media and “fake news” online.”**

The Judicial Service Commission (JSC) faces such a predicament, following the recent creation of two twitter accounts purporting to have been created by Chief Justice Luke Malaba.

These accounts have been posting and responding to followers on issues that could be detrimental to the justice delivery system and investigations are ongoing to determine the identity and intention of the perpetrator(s).



As convenient as social media may be, things can get out of hand and it is a criminal offence to impersonate someone on online platforms.

According to the Zimbabwe Republic Police Commercial Crimes Division (CCD), during the period January to August 2020, a total of 10 cases have been recorded where criminals have impersonated the identity of high-ranking government officials to further their criminal enterprises.

“The criminals in most cases employed the identity of these officials and register cellphone lines in their names,” the CCD highlighted in a statement. The ZRP stated that some of the cases they recorded include accused persons who created twitter accounts in the names of three

High Court Judges and two Permanent Secretaries.

“They would then post material on the created handles purporting to the genuine subjects impersonated on the handle names,” they further stated.

People have created fake social media accounts designed to look like someone else, like a company, celebrity or politician. They might have the right name or display a picture but when one digs deeper, it is someone else impersonating them. Not cool? But it is happening. These fake accounts spread misinformation

## Tips from experts:

The public is discouraged from making shortcuts when undertaking their daily businesses as they risk losing their hard-earned savings.

- It is noteworthy that criminals impersonate prominent citizens to inspire confidence in their victims hence the need to be diligent.
- Twitter has the highest reports of fake accounts.

### How to tell it is a fake account:

- The account posts all the time, maybe even 20 times a day.
- Suspicion can also be raised if the account is still new with very little posts or pictures.

The public is urged to proceed with caution under such circumstances.

**“Stop  
Think  
Check”**

If something you are reading makes you stop and scratch your head, there are some quick ways you can check up on other news sources if you are not 100 percent sure about it.

The sad thing is, parody sites look and sound like real news, sometimes these are created for fun and a lighter side of things, but most times when posts are made or accounts created, sometimes they are mistaken for real news.

People need to consider that social media can be destructive and due diligence must be employed.

Many people tend to believe anything they read on the internet, and to prove this, someone created a quote purportedly from English literature legend William Shakespeare which says.

**“People will believe anything as long as they find it on Facebook and it is a quote ascribed to someone important”** -William Shakespeare

While it is obvious that this quote is fake, it humorously shows us how easily identity theft and fake news can fool the ordinary individual if due diligence is not exercised.

# Misconduct Watch



Misconduct watch is a new feature that the Miranda team will be sharing with members of the Judicial Service. Whilst some acts of misconduct are committed knowingly and with full knowledge of the consequences thereof we have noted that there are some members who commit acts of misconduct unknowingly and through errors that could have been avoided.

We share with you the anecdotes of how some of our colleagues end up in trouble to warn each other that such conduct should be avoided.

In this edition, we publish acts of misconduct committed by an Additional Sheriff and two Magistrates. The names of the members involved will be withheld.

## CASE NUMBER ONE

An Additional Sheriff was directed to serve matrimonial summons in a divorce case. In terms of the law, matrimonial summons must be served personally. The Additional Sheriff did not serve the summons personally as required by the law but went on to affix them on a letter box. This caused the matter to fail to kick off. Secondly, on two occasions the same Additional Sheriff was required to serve summons in two different cases on the defendants living at different addresses. He did not serve the summons but instead lied in the return of service

that he could not locate the addresses of the defendants.

He pleaded guilty to the two counts and was discharged from service.

## CASE NUMBER TWO

A Magistrate was on leave. He then went to his court station whilst still on leave and requested for a court record from the Clerk of Court in respect of an *ex-parte* application that had been made by an applicant against ZIMRA for the release of a motor vehicle.

He granted an order for the release of that vehicle without the presence or service of papers to ZIMRA. The Magistrate could not explain why he went to work whilst on leave and why he specifically requested for the record from the Clerk of Court. There were further no reasons in the record on why he granted such an order in the absence of the other party and without that party being served with court papers.

He was convicted of acts of misconduct and discharged from duty. He is also on remand in the criminal court for the offence of abuse of office by a public officer.

## CASE NUMBER THREE

A Magistrate hardly a year in service and still on probation went on to cohabit with a certain woman at the first station

that he had been deployed to. He is alleged to have committed acts of domestic violence against that woman. The woman then went to the court station where the Magistrate was working on several occasions and caused commotion at the court station and also reported the Magistrate for domestic violence. Secondly, the same Magistrate presided over a Civil Case where he handed down a judgment in favor of one party. The party who had lost, went on to file an appeal in the High Court. After the preparation of the record it was then noted that the judgment that the Magistrate had handed down in court and the judgment that was in the record of appeal were different. He had added some issues and altered his original hand written judgment which he had delivered in court, the Commission



terminated his contract of employment, in other words, he could not be confirmed as a member of the Judicial Service, because he had failed his probation.

## LESSONS

The lessons from the anecdotes given above are, firstly, that members of staff should take note and be conscious of their duties and perform them in terms of the laid down Standard Operating Procedures. This is what the Additional Sheriff failed to do.

Secondly, members of staff, especially judicial officers must not act in a manner that brings the name of the Judicial Service Commission into disrepute. Judicial officers must be honest and must maintain the integrity of the offices that they hold.

The two Magistrates exhibited high degrees of dishonesty in the manner that they were doing their work.

ENTERTAINMENT CORNER



PREVIOUSLY	
1	W
2	A
3	R/D
4	D
5	E
6	N
7	J/R
8	Y
9	Q
10	M
11	P
12	S
13	O
14	U
15	L
16	I
17	T
18	B
19	C
20	V
21	X
22	H
23	G
24	K
25	F
26	Z

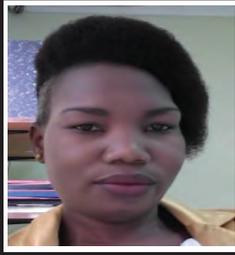
**LEGAL GURU PUZZLE NO.16**  
**SET BY MAYOR**

By following the clues above, you will find all the words needed to fill this crossword puzzle. **TAKE CARE**, some clues may be cryptic in nurture. The numbers inside the grid are meant to guide you in word positioning as each number represents the same letter throughout. If you fit all the correct answers in the below workspace, the first seven, in the yellow boxes, spell **SOMETHING RECEIVED AT A COURT CLERK'S OFFICE.**

2	9	10	11	12	7	8
8		11		6		9
8		12		13		12
5	4	1	14	15	3	8
16		8	12	17		8
2			18			5
12	14	14	5	16	2	14

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18

Justice Blac quits convicting (CRYPTIC)	
Stabbing suspect's weapon (SIMPLE)	
Uses, a weapon for example (SIMPLE)	
Against Tamil legal standards (CRYPTIC)	
Electronic mail centre (SIMPLE)	
Lawyer Dali fends off this sentence (CRYPTIC)	
Mint off-cuts (SIMPLE)	
Boasts (SIMPLE)	
Dominant digit in prisoner Mandela's number! (SIMPLE)	



Grace Chilapula was first with last issue's correct solution. Chilapula (pictured), is an executive assistant at Bindura Magistrates' Courts. She is a Christian and mother of four.

You too can grace this space. Just WhatsApp a screenshot of your completed puzzle, and brief profile, to Mayor on 0776 367 719.

# NOTICE BOARD

## RESIGNATIONS

**Joshua Nembaware** Provincial Magistrate, Chipinge Magistrates' Court  
**Musandipamba Mabamba** Accounting Assistant, Master's Office Harare  
**Terrence Marira** Office Orderly, High Court - Harare  
**Ellinah Kutuyayo** Human Resources Officer, Chief Magistrates' Office  
**Phineas Mutisi** Accountant, Secretariat  
**Jabson Mutadzi** Assistant Registrar, Labour Court- Harare  
**Ronald Chikowore** Accounting Assistant, High Court- Mutare  
**Anthony Makonese** Human Resources Officer, Secretariat  
**Happyson Huruva** Accounting Assistant, Bulawayo Magistrates' Court  
**Annet Moyo** Assessor, High Court- Bulawayo  
**Timothy Chipindu** Driver, High Court - Harare  
**Mandipa Lucia Sithole** Judges' Assistant, High Court- Harare  
**Chiedza Guramatunhu** Judges' Assistant, High Court- Harare  
**Batsirai Chipupuri** Professional Research Assistant, Supreme Court  
**Prunella Tembo** Court Interpreter, Plumtree Magistrates' Court  
**Thulani Mutenje** Assistant Registrar, Supreme Court

## DISCHARGES

**Tendai Isheunesu Gota** Additional Sheriff, Harare  
**Bright Mpiyabo** Clerk of Court, Kwekwe Magistrates' Court  
**Phoebe Chikeya** Court Recorder, Gokwe Magistrates' Court  
**Mutsekwa Jairus** Magistrate, Mutoko Magistrates' Court  
**Witness T Mtetwa** Provincial Magistrate, Mutoko Magistrates' Court

## RETIREMENTS

**Dzikamunhenga Victor** Court Interpreter, Karoi Magistrates' Court  
**Thandiwe Zinamo** Records and Information Assistant, Secretariat

**James Mandangu** Office Orderly, Harare Magistrates' Court

**Mawadze Taruwanza** Provincial Magistrate, Chinhoyi Magistrates' Court

**Margret Chimbwanda** Records & Information Supervisor, Secretariat

## PROMOTIONS

**Mr Walter Chikwana** Promoted to Secretary  
**Mr Sithembinkosi Msipa** Promoted to Deputy Secretary Support Services  
**Mrs Faith Mushure** Promoted to Deputy Secretary Policy and Legal Services  
**Mr Elijah Makomo** Promoted to Head of Policy and Legal Services  
**Mr Tandaridze I Mugova** Promoted to Head of Sheriff Services  
**Mr Samson Mutendamambo** Promoted to Head of Human Resources  
**Ms Anita Tshuma** Promoted to Chief Registrar  
**Mrs Dorothy Mwanyisa** Promoted to Deputy Registrar – High Court  
**Mr Lancelot Taga** Promoted to Assistant Protocol Officer  
**Mr Blessing Zenenga** Promoted to Assistant Protocol Officer  
**Mr Livas Mwanza** Promoted to Assistant Communications Officer  
**Mr Lesson Gangaidzo** Promoted to Accountant

## MAGISTRATES PROMOTIONS / APPOINTMENTS

**Marehwanazvo Gofa** Appointed Regional Magistrate  
**Sheila Nazombe** Appointed Regional Magistrate

## NEW APPOINTMENTS

**Francis Mutema** Appointed National Victim Friendly Coordinator  
**Tendai Mbendani** Appointed Assistant Master  
**Tendai Murenje** Appointed Assistant Registrar  
**Eugenia Matsheza** Appointed Assistant Registrar



## Wedding

**WEDDING BELLS:** Marondera Magistrates' Court Clerk of Court who is also a Miranda Correspondent, Anxious Mbalanga wedded Zvikomborero Ngarande at Stone Haven Farm on 12 September 2020.

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