



REPUBLIC OF ZAMBIA
THE JUDICIARY

In reply please quote:

No.....

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PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

**JUDICIARY OF ZAMBIA AFFIRMS COMMITMENT TO TRUTH AND
PUBLIC CONFIDENCE**

Lusaka, 21st November 2023 - The Judiciary takes this opportunity to correct the false narrative developing as a result of the dissemination of inaccurate information by some media houses, with the most recent of such misinformation being that carried by the Daily Nation Newspaper of Monday, 20th November 2023, alleging that the Judges of the High Court are under external influence.

Articles 122 and 123 of the Constitution provide for the functional and financial independence of the Judiciary, respectively. The allegiance of a Judge is solely to the Constitution and the law, free from internal or external influence or control.

The Judiciary views irresponsible reporting as not only detrimental to its reputation, but also as a direct assault on the fundamental principles of justice and the rule of law. The foundation of a just and transparent society rests on the unwavering trust that the public places in its institutions, particularly the Judiciary.

Media houses are reminded of their ethical duty to report truthfully and responsibly. Misleading the public not only damages the reputation of the Judiciary but also jeopardizes the principles upon which a fair and impartial legal system is built.

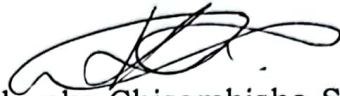
While acknowledging and respecting the vital role of the media in a democratic society, the Judiciary insists that this freedom must be exercised responsibly. The deliberate spread of misinformation can have far-reaching consequences on public and investor confidence.

The Judiciary calls upon media houses to exercise due diligence in verifying information from credible sources before dissemination. Upholding accuracy and fairness in reporting is not only a professional obligation but also a

responsibility to the public, ensuring that they are well-informed without being misled.

In asserting its commitment to the principles of truth, justice, and the rule of law, the Judiciary is prepared to take decisive measures to counter attempts to undermine these principles and rectify any misinformation.

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