



# News Release

May 14, 2021

## Judiciary guides on the swearing-in of Local Government officials

The Chief Registrar, Sarah Langa Siu, has directed all Chief Magistrates to set aside their routine work and prioritise the swearing-in of in-coming District Executive Committees.

The Judiciary has equally advised Chief Administrative Officers and the Clerks to District Councils to liaise with the Chief Magistrates in their areas to draw clear programmes for the smooth swearing-in ceremonies of the office bearers.

**Regulation 2 of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Schedule and the 8<sup>th</sup> Schedule of The Local Government Act** requires all elected Local Council leaders to take the Oath of Allegiance and Oath of the Office they are elected to serve in before assuming office.

Represented by the Chief Magistrate, the Judiciary plays a crucial role in the swearing-in of the various office bearers, including the Chairperson and members of the Executive Committee. **Section 11 (8) of the Local Government Act** further mandates the Chief Magistrate to preside over the election of the Speaker of the District Council.

In a May 14 memo to the Judicial Officers, the Chief Registrar wrote: “This is to remind you that the swearing-in of the in-coming District Executive Committees in your respective jurisdictions must be conducted within seven (7) days from May 12, 2021, in accordance with Section 169 of the Local Government Act, Cap 243. Please ensure that the exercise is completed by **May 19, 2021.**”

The Judiciary currently has only 58 Chief Magistrates to perform the functions in all the 146 districts of Uganda, which means some Chief Magistrates will handle more than four districts.

The Judiciary wishes all elected officials successful ceremonies.

### ENQUIRIES

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