

FDC party headquarters seized over sh10m debt

By Nelson Kiva

The Forum for Democratic Change (FDC) party headquarters at Najjanankumbi, a city suburb, have allegedly been seized since Monday by a stationery supplier, Stephen Wafula, who claims the party owes him sh10m.

Wafula told *New Vision* yesterday that he had supplied FDC stationery worth sh10m.

He said the stationery was used during the party delegates conference held on November 24 this year to elect the new party president at Namboole stadium.

Wafula said the supplies included registers, access cards, books and pens.

"I had initially suggested that they advance me 60% of the money, the 20% on delivery and the other 20% at a later stage. But the party secretary general, Nandala Mafabi, convinced me that they will be able to pay me all the money in advance and on delivery, something I accepted and I offered a discount to them."

Wafula explained: "I was doing this because I loved my party and I have been tolerant with them. I had warned them before that they always delay to pay me, but they assured me of prompt payment."

Wafula explained that even during the 2015 delegates' conference, where they elected Dr Kiiza Besigye, as the party's flag-bearer the 2016 elections, he supplied the party stationery. He said even then, they delayed to pay him to the extent that the last instalment was made in April this year. However, we will strike a compromise with the party leadership. I think I will hold and address a press conference to clarify further on the matter," he said.

When *New Vision* visited the party offices yesterday morning, the main gate on Entebbe Road was closed. There were two men manning the small gate and any identification showing that you are a journalist, was enough to deny you access to the offices.

"Are you a party member? If you are a journalist, please go back and call the party president or the secretary general for further information," one of the men said.

The people in the neighbourhood, who spoke on condition of anonymity, said the gate to the party offices is always open. Therefore, being



FDC party offices in Najjanankumbi, Kampala allegedly closed over defaulted rent.
Photo by Shamim Saad

Party's vice president Alice Alaso said the National Executive Committee had approved and authorised the secretary general to withdraw sh8m and pay Wafula

closed at that time suggested something wrong.

The party vice-president Alice Alaso confirmed that Wafula had been camping at the offices since Monday. Alaso said the National Executive Committee had approved and authorised the party secretary general to withdraw sh8m and pay Wafula.

Registering her concern regarding the whereabouts of the money, Alaso said this was even before the delegates' conference.

"I appeal to the party secretary general and the entire party leadership to ensure that Wafula is paid, because it is a great embarrassment to the party to have offices seized by the man who has genuine claims," Alaso said.

When *New Vision* contacted Nandala Mafabi on the phone, he said: "Let him sleep there. How can someone leave his home to come and sleep at the party offices? I have no time; good day."

Court d dismiss murder

By Farooq Kas

Nakawa Chief M declined to dismiss former Assistant Police (AIGP) An.

Yesterday, Grad Sajjabbi rejected request to dismiss that the court has capital offences 1 so long since it try them.

"I have advised come to a con court cannot d has no power application is Sajjabbi ruled.

Sajjabbi note lawyers also particular pro him to release investigations

Recently, d Anthony W suspects still u murder asked on grounds t have been b months, but adduce evid were charged

Wameli ha entitled to a State has fai High Court I dismissed. F of Public P the case late found.

The appli Ntende, I Tumusiime, Magambo, Ahmada : Ayub, Os Asuman M Ssemwang: Khala alias Ddamulira.

They we aggravated the murde Kenneth Mambewa on Marh