

# Judiciary bans interns, volunteers

By Andante Okanya

The Judiciary has banned its officers from recruiting volunteers and interns, saying it is an illegality that contradicts public service requisite procedure, since the Government framework does not cater for such entities.

The caution is contained in a memo by Chief Registrar Paul Gadenya, dated September 4. It is addressed to registrars, deputy registrars, assistant registrars, chief magistrates, magistrates Grade One/Two, and officers in charge of

courts/stations. Gadenya premised the caution on scrutiny of various inspection reports, which disclosed glaring breaches that could, among others, breed corruption that cast the Judiciary in negative light.

“Reference is made to the various inspection reports from which I have observed with dismay that a number of judicial officers are informally recruiting volunteers and interns outside the Judiciary administration framework and without following the established procedures,” the memo reads.

It states: “The so-called volunteers are exposed to official documents without undertaking the oath of secrecy. There is no mechanism for supervision and discipline of volunteers in the Judiciary.” Gadenya stressed that the Judiciary budget does not cater for volunteers and interns. He noted that under the circumstances, these entities prey on the office management fund meant for established staff.

The chief registrar has advised the officers to consult the secretary to the Judiciary, who is mandated to recruit staff in event of understaffing.