

Two staff charged over leaked Liquid Silk video

By Charles Etukuri

Two staff of Liquid Silk, a popular bar and restaurant in Bugolobi, a Kampala suburb, were yesterday charged before Nakawa Court with the offence of cyber harassment after a video of two clients meeting was leaked on social media.

Charles Mugabi and Simon Kazoba were arrested on Monday and detained at Jinja Road Police Station before they were charged before Nakawa Grade One Magistrate, Christina Nantege yesterday.

BETWEEN THE LINES:

■ Silk Liquid director Steven Kavuma said as management, they were apologetic about the incident and that it was unfortunate some elements had corrupted their staff.

Mugabi pleaded guilty and was sentenced to three months imprisonment or pay a sh300,000 fine. Kazoba pleaded not guilty and was released on bail.

Cyber harassment, which is the use of the Internet or other electronic means to stalk or harass an individual, a group or an organisation, is an offence under the Computer Misuse Act of 2011 in Uganda.

The head of security at Liquid Silk, Samuel Kagubala, told *New Vision* that they were shocked by the leak of the videos and that they had taken measures to ensure there was no repeat of the incident.

"We started carrying out

our investigations and lined up a number of suspects, including myself. We were able to get the two, who were on duty on the fateful day," Kagubala told *New Vision*.

Liquid Silk director Steven Kavuma said as management, they were apologetic about the incident and that it was unfortunate some elements had corrupted their staff.

He also said the password for the transmission of material to any third party had been given back to the supplier of the surveillance cameras.

He also said they would ensure that they reach out to all their customers and personally apologise to each of them over the matter.

Sources also told *New Vision* that the Police were looking for more suspects, including those who crafted the message that was sent out on social media relating to the court case Bank of Uganda filed against embattled Crane Bank boss Sudhir Ruparelia.

It appeared the video was intended to harass one of the lawyers involved in the Sudhir case.

Sudhir is currently embroiled in a civil suit with Bank of Uganda after investigations into the mismanagement of Crane Bank indicated that he embezzled billions of shillings through what they called highly sophisticated fraudulent transactions.

A source privy to the investigations told *New Vision* that Police were also hunting for three men who allegedly paid the Liquid Silk staff money to access the videos and subsequently edited them, to insert messages meant to disparage.