

LDC cancels Mabikke's papers, recalls Mbidde's

Repercussion. The affected lawyers will not practice.

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KAMPALA. Nine lawyers, including former Makindye East MP Michael Mabikke, have had their post-graduate diplomas in legal practice cancelled with immediate effect after being found guilty of engaging in examination malpractice.

The nine lawyers whose diplomas have been cancelled are Michael Mabikke, Ms Fiona Asimwe Rwakiseeta, Mr David Balondemu, Mr Dennis Jenkins Kyazze, Moses Mugimba Muhumuza, Priscilla Mutebi, Dorothy Amuron, Joseph Lubega and Jane Namaganda.

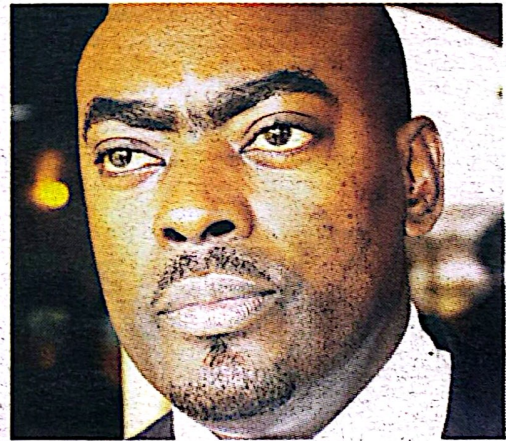
The diplomas were cancelled by the awarding institution, Law Development Centre (LDC).

The cancellation of the diploma certificates in legal practice means that the affected individuals cannot represent clients in court. The law requires that only advocates with a post-graduate diploma in legal practice from LDC are eligible to represent a client in court.

The lawyers whose diplomas were cancelled were also ordered to return their certificates to the Academic Registrar of LDC, the only institution in the country that awards such diplomas.

In its statement to the media, the LDC said they reached the recommendations after a sub-committee was constituted to investigate the allegations of examination malpractice at the institution between 2004 and 2011.

"The named individuals whose diplomas have been cancelled or



L-R: Michael Mabikke has had his law diploma cancelled and Fred Mukasa Mbidde's law diploma has been recalled.

recalled are required to return their original transcripts and diploma certificates to the academic registrar Law Development Centre within seven days of the publication of this press release. LDC no longer recognises the award and validity of the diplomas cancelled and recalled," reads part of the LDC press statement.

The LDC has also recalled with immediate effect the diplomas of seven lawyers, including city lawyer and member of the East African Legislative Assembly, Mr Denis Mukasa Mbidde, for further scrutiny.

Re-sitting paper

According to the statement, Mr Mbidde is required to re-sit special examinations in criminal proceedings within one year from the date of the notice.

Others whose diplomas have been recalled and will require to

sit special examinations are Friday Roberts Kagoro, Micheal Ezadri Onyafia, Deo Kizito Lutalo, Felistas Muloiti Nafula and Florence Kataike (criminal proceedings) while Jackie Evelyn Nakalembe will sit special exams in Land transactions.

Four former senior staff who were found to have committed some irregularities in the alleged examination fraud will be subjected to disciplinary proceedings. They include Ms Joyce Werikhe (former secretary of Human Resource and administration and also former registrar), Mr Expedite Kaaya (former head Bar Course), Mr Hamis Lukiyaenzi (former manager Administration and former senior assistant secretary), and Ms Teopista Nalule (former copy typist).

Likewise, 49 lawyers have been absolved of any wrongdoing.

In a separate move, city tycoon Hamis Kiggundu has been referred

to the Law Council for further action. The businessman has been referred to the Law Council alongside prominent human rights lawyer Isaac Ssemakadde for allegedly assisting the Mr Kiggundu write his exams.

Failed court rescue

Core to these recommendations of the LDC sub-committee, Mr Mukasa and Mr Mabikke had appealed to the Court of Appeal about two years ago, seeking to block LDC from appointing a committee to investigate their papers.

However, the Court of Appeal in May last year dismissed their petition and ruled that LDC had powers to set up a forensic committee to investigate such allegations of impropriety in its examination processes and results. Subsequent to the ruling, the LDC commenced the investigations leading to these recommendations.

CLEAR

Lawyers cleared of wrongdoing.

Mr Talemwa C...

Ms Kyobutungi

Mr Rwanyonga

Mr Sseruyigga

Martin

Mr Sebagala J...

Mr Mwenyio S...

Ms Nabungye I...

Mr Mwesiye A...

Mr Mwanje Ro...

Ms Nalugwa M...

Mr Namungo F...

Ms Kyokunda

Mr Piwang Bo...

Mr Okello Bria

Mr Kabogozu I...

Mr Mugaha R...

Mr Mugaya Al...

Mr Renge Sim...

Mr Nyero Pat...

Ms Ichodu Su...

Ms Murungi

Ms Nambozo

Mr Okello Ja...

Ms Tumwebu

Ms Zawedde

Ms Arinaitwe

Faith

Mr Arinaitwe

Barigye

Mr Beehamy

Mr Ceng Da...

Mr Chirchir

Mr Ddamba

Mr Ishapai

Ms Karungi

Ms Kitaka

Damaris

Ms Kulume

Mr Magezi

Mr Mbabaz

Mr Nabaas

Ms Rwandi

Mr Were K

Mr Itarikir

Mr Mbalja