



Etuusa (second-left) in the company of friends and a Police officer at the Anti-Corruption Court in Kampala yesterday. She was later released on bail. Photo by Ramadhan Abbey

Makerere deputy registrar charged with abuse of office

ETUUSA SUSPENDED

After being accused of abuse of office, Etuusa was suspended by Makerere University authorities

By Vision Reporter

A Makerere University deputy academic registrar, Loy Margaret Etuusa, was yesterday charged with four counts of abuse of office relating to fake procurement processes.

Etuusa, who is in charge of certificates, ceremonies and publications, was charged before magistrate Peter Lochomin at the Anti-Corruption Court in Kololo, Kampala.

According to the prosecution, the alleged irregular procurement process took place during the 67th graduation ceremony at Makerere University. Etuusa denied the charges.

DPP argues

Prosecution led by senior state attorney Edward Muhumuza from the Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions said on February 15 last year, Etuusa abused her office, by irregularly procuring Exxon Contractors Ltd to provide phone-keeping services during the graduation ceremony.

It is further alleged that Etuusa also contravened procurement laws, regulations and procedures by irregularly procuring

Last May, Etuusa made an attempt to block her suspension from the university in vain.

She had sought court to issue an order restraining the institution's disciplinary committee from taking any further disciplinary measures against her.

The university went ahead to effect the suspension, prompting her lawyer to file an application for contempt of court, demanding sh6b from the university.

Court had initially granted an Interim order stopping her suspension from the university.

It is not clear whether the application for the award of sh6b has been heard.

Etuusa had argued that the management unlawfully suspended her from the university without following the due process of the law, adding that she was never given the right to be heard.

FLASHBACK

JAALC Uganda Ltd to provide drinks and food vending services at the graduation ceremony. Prosecution said Etuusa arbitrarily contravened procurement by hiring Juliet

LAW SAYS...

Any person found guilty of abuse of office is liable to serving seven years in jail

Mirembe to provide food and drinks yet the university had prohibited the same at the ceremony.

In another count, prosecution said during the graduation ceremony, Etuusa contravened the procurement laws and regulations' procedures by procuring Milton Egayu to provide flower-vending service at the ceremony.

Etuusa appeared composed and listened attentively as the charges were read out to her in a fully packed court.

Any person found guilty of abuse of office under the Anti-Corruption Act is liable to serve a term not exceeding seven years imprisonment or a fine not exceeding sh3.2m.

Etuusa, accompanied by her husband and a lawyer, was ushered into the courtroom at about 12:00pm and after denying the charges she was freed on cash bail of sh1m.

Etuusa joined Makerere in 1992 as an assistant registrar and has risen through the ranks culminating in her appointment as the deputy registrar of the certificates, ceremonies and publication division in the department of the Academic Registrar.

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