



## Chambers of the Chief Justice

SUPREME COURT OF UGANDA

Plot 2, The Square High Court Building  
P. O. Box 7085, Kampala Uganda

IN ANY CORRESPONDENCE ON  
THIS SUBJECT PLEASE QUOTE NO. **CJ/C.7**

5<sup>th</sup> October 2021

### **CIRCULAR**

The Hon. The Deputy Chief Justice  
The Hon. The Principal Judge  
The Hon. Justices of Supreme Court  
The Hon. Justices of Court of Appeal/Constitutional Court  
The Hon. Judges of High Court  
The Chief Registrar  
The Permanent Secretary/Secretary to The Judiciary  
The Registrars, Deputy Registrars and Assistant Registrars  
The Chief Magistrates  
The Magistrates Grade I  
The Magistrates Grade II  
All Staff of the Judiciary

#### **GUIDELINES ON EXECUTION OF COURT JUDGEMENTS, ORDERS AND DECREES DURING THE PREVALENCE OF COVID-19**

CONSIDERING the various petitions, complaints and concerns filed in my office regarding the stay of execution during the Covid -19 lockdowns;

AWARE OF the need for litigants to realize fruits of their judgement after a long and costly protracted hearing phase;

***"Justice for All"***

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IN REFERENCE TO the Guidelines to mitigate the spread of Covid- 19 I issued on 29<sup>th</sup> January, 7<sup>th</sup> of June, 21<sup>st</sup> June 2021 and 2<sup>nd</sup> August 2021;

IN ORDER TO balance the interests of justice of all the persons who have sought justice in the Courts;

IN LINE WITH the Presidential Statement to the Nation on the Progress of the Covid-19 Response issued on **22<sup>nd</sup> September 2021** which further eased the lockdown and opened up more sectors; and

PURSUANT TO the powers conferred upon the Chief Justice by Article 133 of the Constitution;

I HEREBY ISSUE these **Guidelines on Execution of Court Judgments, Orders and Decrees** with effect from the **11<sup>th</sup> of October, 2021**.

#### **A: Execution Process**

1. All Courts are hereby directed to receive and process applications for execution in accordance with the relevant laws and practices.
2. Registrars and Magistrates are specially cautioned to ensure the authenticity of the Court Judgments, orders and decrees before they process them for execution.
3. Where there are several modes of execution available in a particular case, the Warrant of Arrest of a judgement debtor for committal to civil prison should only be issued as a last resort.

4. Every Court Bailiff must present a valid Licence to Court before being issued with a Warrant of Execution.
5. In all matters requiring eviction, demolition and/or giving vacant possession, *the Constitution (Land Eviction) (Practice) Directions, 2021, (Legal Notice No. 2 of 2021)* must be adhered to.
6. Applications for Distress for Rent Orders must be made strictly in accordance with the relevant law and before a Court that has both the geographical and pecuniary jurisdiction to determine the matter.
7. All execution proceedings in Court and out of Court must be carried out with due observance of the Covid-19 Preventive Measures issued from time to time by the Chief Justice and the Ministry of Health.

**B: Modification of earlier Guidelines**

8. These Guidelines are in addition to the other Guidelines previously issued, which remain in force, subject to the specific modifications provided for herein.
9. These Guidelines may be amended from time to time.

Dated at **Kampala**, this 5<sup>th</sup> October 2021.



**Alfonse Chigamoy Owiny - Dollo**  
**CHIEF JUSTICE**