



The Lawyer's Insight

A LAZ NEWSLETTER • ISSUE 7, OCTOBER 2025



Justice Catherine Lombe

SETTING THE STANDARD FOR YOUNG LAWYERS



ZAMBIAN LEGAL PROFESSIONALS
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THE EDITOR'S INSIGHT

Every edition of *The Lawyer's Insight* tells a story, not just of our profession, but also of our evolving identity as lawyers in Zambia. This 7th edition is no exception.

In this edition, we celebrate milestones that demonstrate the Law Association of Zambia's (LAZ) continued growth and relevance - from the successful hosting of the first-ever LAZ Summer School in Siavonga to the launch of the LAZ Digital Channel and the strengthening of international partnerships through the Twinning Agreement with the Haut-Katanga Bar Association. As the President highlights in his message, these achievements are not isolated events; they are deliberate steps in building a modern, responsive, and globally connected Association.



Apart from the Association, this edition also shines a light on the individual journeys of our lawyers. We feature five exceptional Zambian lawyers who have been selected for the prestigious Ireland Fellowship Programme 2025/2026. Their achievement underscores the value of continuous learning and global exposure for Zambian lawyers. We also profile the celebrated Lady Justice Catherine Mulenga Lombe, Judge-in-Charge of the High Court in Livingstone. Her story, as told through the eyes of James Tembo, speaks to every young lawyer seeking to find their footing in the profession - a reminder that hard work remains a timeless virtue in advocacy. We have also featured Natasha Mwelwa from Northern Province, whose outreach and mentorship in schools continue to inspire the next generation of legal minds.

We also present an insightful contribution from our writer, Daniel S. Libati, who poses a timely and provocative question: *Should Zambia legislate State Funerals?* His article engages a complex yet necessary conversation about balancing tradition, protocol, and governance. Similarly, Jonas Zimba examines the application of the second offender principle in Zambia, offering another layer of intellectual engagement for our readers. These articles reinforce the Association's role in shaping national discourse through informed and objective debate.

Taken together, these articles reflect the heartbeat of LAZ today. As Editor, I am deeply grateful to our Editorial Team, our contributors, our ever-supportive sponsors Stanbic Bank, Zamtel, and Prudential Pensions Management Zambia (PPMZ), and to our growing readership. *The Lawyer's Insight* continues to thrive because of your engagement.

To all our members (senior and junior alike), I encourage you to use this platform. Share your reflections, research, and experiences. Let us continue to write, debate, and document the evolution of the legal profession in Zambia.

Happy reading!

Misozi Hope Masengu
 Editor | Council Member

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FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK

Greetings to the Membership,

I extend my sincere appreciation for your continued support to the Council as we work towards our shared vision of building a thriving Association. Your engagement and encouragement remain our greatest strength.

We are delighted to announce that the annual LAZ Marathon was successfully held on 30th August 2025 at Kafubu Mall in Ndola, featuring 5km, 10km, 21km, and a 42km Virtual Run. In addition, the Annual Sports Day took place on 4th October 2025 at UNILUS – Silverest Campus. Both events were resounding successes, and I wish to sincerely thank the Marathon and Sports Day Committees, all participants, and our sponsors for their tremendous contributions. We look forward to making these events even more engaging in 2026, in line with our ongoing welfare agenda for members.

I am equally pleased to report that we held the first-ever LAZ Summer School in Siavonga, from 22nd to 26th September 2025. This historic milestone marks a new chapter for the Association and the legal profession in Zambia. It demonstrates our commitment to continuous learning and innovation in an ever-evolving legal and business landscape. The Summer School was an outstanding success, and we intend to make it an annual feature on the LAZ calendar.

On the reform front, we were proud to launch the LAZ Digital Channel, a major step towards streamlining member services and enhancing accessibility. This innovation reflects our dedication to modernizing the Association in line with 21st-century standards.

In pursuit of our objective to foster collaborations with local and international institutions, we were honoured to host the Haut-Katanga Bar Association of the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), led by its President, Mr. Jean-Paul Kitenge. During this visit, we signed a historic Twinning Agreement, aimed at strengthening bilateral relations between our two Associations. This milestone underscores our commitment to increasing LAZ's visibility and influence on the global stage.

In the same spirit of collaboration, we also signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Family

Development Initiatives (FDI) on 1st August 2025. This partnership reflects our shared commitment to uplifting vulnerable and rural communities through legal empowerment and community-driven development, while advancing good governance, civic education, and social accountability.

Finally, we continue to intervene on matters of constitutionalism and national governance, consistent with our mandate as the Law Association of Zambia. I assure you that we remain steadfast in implementing our 2024–2026 Strategic Agenda and in upholding the values that define our profession.

Thank you once again for your unwavering support to Council. Together, we are shaping a stronger, more dynamic, and more impactful Association.

Lungisani Zulu
President
Law Association of Zambia



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LAZ INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS AND SCHOLARSHIPS COMMITTEE: ZAMBIAN LEGAL PROFESSIONALS SECURE SPOTS IN IRELAND'S 2025 FELLOWSHIP PROGRAMME

By **Mary Mwansa** and **Misozi Hope Masengu**

The Ireland Fellowship is a fully funded master's level scholarship programme run by the Irish Aid under the Irish Government. The Fellowship enables early to mid-career professionals from eligible countries to benefit from a prestigious, world-class, quality education contributing to capacity building. It offers selected students the opportunity to undertake a fully funded one-year master's level programme at a higher education institution in Ireland. The award covers programme fees, flights, accommodation and living costs.

The goal is to nurture future leaders; to develop in-country capacity to achieve national Sustainable Development Goals; and to build positive relationships with Ireland. The courses available for study cover a wide range of areas

such as environmental leadership; food security; marine management; engineering; science and technology; development studies; international relations; law; human rights; gender and equality; health; education; information systems; social policy; and business. The Programmes in Ireland commence in August or September each year and, depending on the programme, run for between 10 and 16 months.

This year, through the Law Association of Zambia (LAZ) International Relations and Scholarships Committee, five (5) Zambian lawyers have been selected under the 2025/2026 Cohort to pursue studies in Ireland. Below, we feature their profiles and reflections on being selected for this prestigious opportunity.

1. Ms. Bwalya Mwansa Salamu - Senior Counsel, Department of International Law and Agreements, Ministry of Justice Zambia

Bwalya is holder of a Bachelor of Laws Degree(LLB) from the University of Zambia and Advocate of the Supreme Court of Zambia. She also holds a Postgraduate Diploma in Legislative Drafting from the Zambia Institute of Advanced Legal Education(ZIALE). In her current role as Senior Counsel in the Department of International Law and Agreements at the Ministry of Justice, she is responsible for negotiating, drafting and perusing domestic and international agreements; advising the Government of the Republic of Zambia on various legal issues including human rights issues; and attending to various human rights issues including the submission of periodic reports to respective international treaty bodies. She remarks that she was honoured to be selected as a Fellow under the prestigious Ireland-Africa Fellowship.



2. Chishimba Yvette Mulenga – Associate Partner, Ranchold | Chungu Advocates

Chishimba has, over the years, dedicated her career to advancing and advocating for the rights of children and women, working with Civil Society Organisations committed to social justice and equality. Beyond her advocacy work, she has built a strong foundation in litigation, which culminated in her most recent role as Associate Partner at Messrs. Ranchhod | Chungu Advocates. Under the prestigious Ireland Fellowship Programme(IFP), she is pursuing a Masters Degree in Environmental and Natural Resources Law at University College Cork(UCC). She remarks that “the Fellowship represents a valuable opportunity for growth and meaningful impact,” and appreciates its transparent and merit-based selection process. She further encourages fellow members of LAZ to consider applying.



3. Tiyyese Japhet Chirwa – Senior Counsel, Department of International Law and Agreements, Ministry of Justice Zambia

Tiyyese's career journey has afforded him the opportunity to work on human rights matters alongside various United Nations (UN) Special Rapporteurs visiting Zambia, on a range of human rights issues. He has been extensively involved in the preparation of Zambia's State Party reports, including the Universal Periodic Review (UPR) and the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights (ACHPR), among others. It is this blend of professional experience and dedication that inspired him to pursue a Master of Laws (LLM) in International Human Rights Law and Public Policy at University College Cork (UCC) under the 2025/2026 Ireland–Africa Fellows Programme. Furthermore, he is confident that the programme will deepen his understanding of how international human rights legal systems operate on a global scale and enhance his capacity in policy formulation and development. Upon completion of his studies, he looks forward to contributing towards Sustainable Development Goal Number 16, i.e. promoting peace, justice, and strong institutions.



4. Namutami Lilly Kabayi

Namutami holds a Bachelor of Laws (LLB) from the University of Lusaka, a Bachelor of Business Degree with a double major in Economics and Management from Edith Cowan University, an International Leadership Training Certificate in Sustainable Local and Regional Economic Development and Trade Promotion from the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH, and a Certificate in Civil Law from L'Université Paris-Panthéon-Assas. She is also an Advocate of the High Court and has a strong interest in business and human rights, child justice, women's rights, and human rights in general. She is pursuing a Master of Laws (LLM) in International Human Rights Law at the University of Galway, under the Ireland Fellows Programme (IFP). Namutami describes the Fellowship as one of the most transparent and empowering opportunities she has ever encountered and strongly encourages all eligible individuals to apply. Upon completion of her LLM, she hopes to return to Zambia to continue promoting and protecting human rights in Zambia.



5. Kabwe Chongo Kamina

Kabwe was called to the Bar in 2021. Since then, she has worked in the non-profit human rights sector, most notably with Chapter One Foundation as an Advocate and Programmes Officer. She is pursuing a Master of Laws (LLM) in International Human Rights and Public Policy at University College Cork, under the Ireland Fellowship. Fueled by a desire for academic growth, Kabwe began the journey toward the Ireland–Africa Fellowship Programme with curiosity and vision. She describes the application process as straightforward, noting that any unclear aspects were promptly clarified by the team at the Embassy of Ireland. She expresses pride in having taken the step to apply for the scholarship, viewing the journey as one that has sparked personal growth, provided clarity, and renewed motivation. As a scholarship recipient, she sees the Fellowship as an opportunity to expand professional capabilities and strengthen leadership skills. She looks forward to the experiences that await in Ireland and is deeply grateful for the opportunity.



Fellowship Opportunities for Judges

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Yale World Fellows Program (Yale University)

Four-month, fully funded leadership program for mid-career professionals worldwide.

Deadline: Dec 3, 2025 (1:00 PM ET)

[More info / Plus d'infos / M  s info](#)

Fisher Family Summer Fellows (Stanford – CDDRL)

Three-week executive program for mid-career practitioners working on democracy, development, and rule of law.

Deadline: Jan 15, 2026 (11:59 PM PT)

[More info / Plus d'infos / M  s info](#)

Ibrahim Leadership Fellowships (AfDB / ITC / UNECA)

One-year leadership placements for young African professionals in major international institutions (host-specific criteria).

Typical deadline: Nov 20, 2025 (varies by host)

[More info / Plus d'infos / M  s info](#)

Harvard Advanced Leadership Initiative (ALI) Fellowship

A year of learning and collaboration at Harvard for senior leaders transitioning to social impact work.

Status: Accepting expressions of interest for the Aug 2026 – Jun 2027 cohort

[More info / Plus d'infos / M  s info](#)

Disclaimer / Avis / Aviso

EN: Please note most of these are volunteer opportunities. We share them to keep members engaged and would appreciate hearing about your participation to help us shape future opportunities.

FR: Veuillez noter que la plupart de ces opportunit  s sont b  n  voles. Nous les partageons pour maintenir l'engagement de nos membres et nous appr  cierions recevoir vos retours afin d'identifier de futures opportunit  s.

ES: Tenga en cuenta que la mayor  a de estas oportunidades son voluntarias. Las compartimos para mantener el compromiso de nuestros miembros y agradecer  amos conocer su participaci  n para ayudarnos a identificar futuras oportunidades.

Thank you / Merci / Gracias — IAWJ Executive Office

WHERE JUNIOR LAWYERS LEARN TO STAND: THE LEGACY OF LADY JUSTICE CATHERINE MULENGA LOMBE

By James Tembo

They say judges sit at the highest rung of society — dignified, respected, and untouchable. Then there is Lady Justice Catherine Mulenga Lombe: graceful, firm, and, if you ask around, just a little bit intimidating.

Appointed to the bench on 13th November 2017, Lady Justice Lombe has built a reputation not through noise or show, but through presence. Today, as Judge-in-Charge of the Livingstone High Court, she stands tall in Zambia's legal system. She is not just admired, not just respected but sometimes, she is even feared, especially by junior lawyers, and yes, even a few seasoned ones. But it is not the kind of fear that pushes people away. It is the kind that demands excellence.

Born on 16th October 1979 in Luanshya, Copperbelt Province, her story began at Roan Mine Hospital. Her parents, Bannie Mwambwa Lombe and Beauty Stephania Lombe, raised four children. She is the third. Her father worked for Roan Copper Mines, which later became part of ZCCM. Today, she is also a proud mother to two children, Temwani Jason Phiri and Juanita Lusungu Phiri.

Her education started at Tots Nursery School in Kabulonga, before moving to Nkwazi Primary School then Kalulushi Trust School. Later, her mother decided she needed more discipline, so she was sent to Fatima Girls Secondary School in Ndola. By



the time she entered the University of Zambia to pursue her LLB, her path was clear.

After graduating and passing through the tough ZIALE bar course, which she cleared on her first attempt, she went on to earn a Postgraduate Diploma in Legislative Drafting and a Masters Degree (LLM) in Public International Law from the University of Lusaka. But books were only part of her journey.

Her legal career began with a short stint at Mulenga Mundashi Legal Practitioners(MMLP). She laughs

when asked about it, as she barely remembers if it even lasted a full month. The turning point came when she accompanied a friend to an interview at the Ministry of Justice. Somehow, she also ended up being interviewed - and got the job! Just like that, she moved from private practice into public service.

As a Learner Legal Practitioner she worked in several departments, including Legal Aid, the DPP's Chambers, Civil Litigation, and Office of the Administrator General and Official Receiver. Ironically, she had

failed Criminal Law I at university, and again at ZIALE on the mid term exams because she was not interested in it at the time. Yet, she ended up as a State Advocate in the DPP's office, later rising to Deputy Chief State Advocate in the National Prosecution Authority. Life, she says, has a sense of humour. Still, her dream was always clear. As a little girl, she once asked her godfather what he did for a living. He replied, "I am the Deputy Chief Justice." From that moment, she decided she would one day be a judge. And she worked toward it. When asked about the transition from bar to bench, she says it was smooth, because she had always been preparing for it.

Her courtroom is known among

lawyers, especially junior ones. Many speak of it in hushed tones. Ask around, and you will see nervous smiles and hear the same advice: "Be prepared." Even experienced advocates take extra time before appearing before her court.

She understands the reputation. "It is not personal," she says, as she smiles. "I just expect lawyers to be confident and prepared." She describes a typical scene, where a junior lawyer comes into court, stumbles while placing him/herself on record, and avoids eye contact. "How can you appear before any court and not be ready?" she asks. "Some come in already scared, just because of stories they have heard. But if you are confident and prepared,

there is nothing to fear."

She also admits that her facial expressions may sometimes add to the pressure. Her sister once asked her, "Why are you giving me that look?" That was when she realised her expression might send a stronger message than she intends. Even so, she stands by her courtroom presence. "It is a form of self-preservation. I am very compassionate, but in court, I am serious. The moment you walk in, the sanctity of what we do must take precedence."

Outside of court, however, she is warm and expressive. She laughs easily, enjoys conversation, and engages fully in social spaces. She believes in mentorship, discipline, and professionalism. "Law is a long journey," she tells junior lawyers. "The more you practice, the more you realise how much you do not know." She says good lawyers pay attention to detail, prepare thoroughly, and respect time. "Mentorship is important. We stand on the shoulders of those who came before us." She also encourages networking. Many junior lawyers overlook it, but she believes it opens doors. "Engage, connect, and be curious," she says. "Sometimes, one conversation can change everything."

Lady Justice Catherine Mulenga Lombe is not just a judge. She is a standard. A reminder of what the legal profession requires, and what it deserves. She may demand much, but in return, she offers something greater - clarity, fairness, and a chance to rise. To junior lawyers: appearing before Justice Lombe is not merely an exercise in advocacy. It is a lesson in presence - how to stand with purpose, speak with care, prepare with diligence, and the enduring importance of respect.



APPLICATION OF THE SECOND OFFENDER PRINCIPLE IN ZAMBIA

By Jonasimba

Introduction

In Zambia, criminal law defines offences and prescribes corresponding punishments. In certain instances, the law differentiates between punishments for first and second offenders. For example, in matters of drug trafficking, the law is lenient on a first offender but harsh on a second offender (*Simon E Kulusika (2006). Text, Cases and Materials on Criminal Law in Zambia. UNZA Press*).

The role of criminal law is both reformatory and deterrent. The meaning of this is that, criminal law is meant to reform offenders and also deter those that would harbour the desire to commit an offence. The view of criminal law in so far as it relates to punishing offenders is that a second offender must be punished severely. It will also be seen that being a first offender is a mitigating factor (*Ibid*). The Court in considering what sentence to impose on a convict, is called upon to look at various principles of sentencing and of interest in this paper is the principle of the convict being a second offender.

The Principle of Second Offender and its Application in Zambia

This principle is viewed in one light. As set out above, a person that commits an offence, will be treated lightly at the first commission of such an offence. The old English adage, "to err is human, to forgive divine" still holds true in the realm of criminal law. However, a person who commits an offence, is tried, convicted and punished, is expected to keep clear of the commission of offences of a similar nature. This principle does not apply to

a person who is being tried for a myriad of offences with different indictments, and the matters are concluded at different times. Simply put, it does not extend to a series of pending cases being resolved concurrently.

In the case of *Geofrey Mushaukwa vs. the People* (ZR 17 SC), the Supreme Court considered the meaning and scope of this principle and stated as follows:

"The issue whether an offence is a second or subsequent one has been considered in a number of cases in England but more important, it was considered by this court in Mweene v the People. It is quite clear on that authority that there must be a previous conviction in existence before the commission of the second or subsequent offence if the mandatory provisions of section 275 of the Penal Code are to apply. It seems to us that the rationale behind minimum mandatory sentences for a second or subsequent offence is that a minimum sentence must be inflicted because the offender has repeated the offence after previously being convicted."

It is very clear from the above case that for one to be said to be a second offender, there must be in existence a conviction before the commission of another offence. It will be noted that the Court in the case above was considering the application of section 275 of the Criminal Procedure Code Act (Chapter 88 of the Laws of Zambia) at the time. This provision remains the same in our current Code and provides

for the procedure to be followed. It also shows what should apply as a second offender and what should not. The Court in the *Geofrey Mushaukwa* case further pointed out that:

"The provision does not apply simply because not having been previously convicted and sentenced, the offender appears in court at a time when he has already committed two or more untried cases which are outstanding against him for which he is subsequently convicted, whether under one indictment or under separate indictments."

Conclusion

The principle of the second offender reinforces the twin objectives of criminal law -deterrence and reformation. It seeks to ensure that offenders who have once been punished reform and do not revert to criminal conduct. This principle does not apply to individuals who have multiple outstanding cases or charges forming a series of offences tried under different indictments at the same time, even if those cases are concluded on different dates. Rather, it applies to offenders who have already been convicted and sentenced for an offence and who, after serving their sentence, commit another offence thereafter. In this way, the principle strengthens the justice system's commitment to both rehabilitation and accountability, ensuring that repeat offenders face appropriate consequences while preserving the opportunity for reform.

SHOULD WE LEGISLATE STATE FUNERALS IN ZAMBIA?

By **Daniel S. Libati, Esq. LLB, LLM (UNZA), AHCZ**



What has happened?

Over the last four months, Zambia has witnessed a rather unfortunate turn of events following the demise of the late 6th President of the Republic, Dr. Edgar Chagwa Lungu. Unfortunate in the sense that what has been witnessed is nothing that we as a nation are quite used to when it comes to putting to rest our beloved current or former leaders. These events have raised questions as to whether we need to have specific legislation to guide us on how to go about the funerals of those that have been privileged to hold very high offices in the land.

The position of LAZ

As expected, the Law Association of Zambia (LAZ) in exercise of its 'Section 4 Mandate', added its voice to the debate when its President, Mr. Lungisani Zulu, was quoted as having stated as follows:

"LAZ observed that there is no existing legislation to guide the country in balancing private family

interests with national protocol in such situations ... It noted that the citizens of Zambia have a legitimate interest in mourning and honouring a former Head of State, and that such moments call for national unity ..."

(Chief Editor. 15th June 2025. **LAZ Calls for Legislation to Govern State Funerals in Zambia.** Lusaka Times website viewed at <https://www.lusakatimes.com/2025/06/15/laz-calls-for-legislation-to-govern-state-funerals-in-zambia/> on 1st September 2025)

Additionally, LAZ called on the Government to enact legislation that clearly outlines procedures for state funerals, noting that the current situation had exposed gaps in the legal framework. It said that such legislation would help the nation manage similar situations more effectively in the future.

Are there best practices from other countries?

Clearly, what has been witnessed is (as earlier stated) rather

unfortunate and unprecedented. As opposed to reproducing the varying viewpoints that a number of thought leaders have put forward, perhaps we would be better placed by learning from other countries. After all, as the saying goes, 'no man is an island!' Here we shall look at three very randomly selected examples, i.e. Great Britain, South Africa and Kenya - to explore how they approach state funerals and what lessons Zambia might draw from their practices.

Great Britain

In Great Britain, a state funeral is a public ceremony held to honour and pay respects to people of great national significance. They observe strict protocol and are steeped in military tradition. State funerals are predominantly reserved for the monarch. On rare occasions, state funerals have been held for key figures outside of the monarchy, including Sir Isaac Newton, Lord Nelson, the Duke of Wellington and Sir Winston Churchill. State funerals are publicly funded. (Amira Arasteh. 9th September 2022. **What is a state funeral, and when was the last one in the UK?** The Telegraph website. Viewed at <https://www.telegraph.co.uk/royal-family/2022/09/18/what-state-funeral-when-last-one-uk/> on 1st September 2025)

South Africa

In South Africa, what is in place is a policy document called the 'State, Official and Provincial Official Funeral Policy Manual'. There, it has been noted that since the advent of democracy in 1994, numerous processes of reengineering government systems, structures and processes have been undertaken and have to a large extent been successfully completed. According to the office of the Presidency, a particularly daunting challenge has been the definition and management of structures, processes and systems related to death and dying. Post-1994, the State-funded funeral policy was reviewed twice to make it appropriate to the context of a new dispensation and environment of a free and inclusive democratic society. The measures undertaken during the demise of the first democratic President of the Republic of South Africa informed the adjustments of the State, Official and Provincial Official Funeral Policy Manual. (The Presidency of the Republic of South Africa. July 2016. **State, Official and Provincial Official Funeral Policy Manual** at page 5. The Presidency website. Viewed at <https://www.thepresidency.gov.za/sites/default/files/2022-05/State%2C%20Official%20and%20Provincial%20Funeral%20Policy.pdf> on 1st September 2025)

Kenya

In Kenya, a leading researcher has defined a state funeral as one referring to be the last farewell ceremony that a state accords her statesmen and women when they die. In Kenya, there have been five deaths that have received this kind of ceremony. The first case was in 1978, when Mzee Jomo Kenyatta, the first President of the Republic passed on. To avoid the differences, the researcher advocates for the full constitutionalization and Africanization of state ceremonies. According to the researcher, it appears the ceremonies are dominated by military traditions whose origin is from outside Africa, particularly Europe and Americas. The decision on who deserves this prestigious last farewell honour seems to be a preserve of the sitting president, who is the head of State and government. Charles, T. I. **State Funerals in Kenya 1963-2020: The Need to Constitutionalize and Africanize State Funerals.** Global Journal of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences Vol.8, No. 7, at page 1: ECRTD-UK viewed at <https://www.eajournals.org/wp-content/uploads/State-Funerals-in-Kenya-1963-2020.pdf> on 1st September 2025

What can we learn from others?

From the sampled countries, it appears that those countries do not seem to have a specific law in place, such as the one that is being advocated for by LAZ. However, they appear to be clear on who is entitled to a state funeral and what ought to happen at a state funeral. In Zambia, we tend to pride ourselves as being the first among equals. We have proved this many times. Perhaps this is an opportunity for us to do just that by putting in place legislation to guide us on state funerals.

To borrow the words of the LAZ President, Mr. Zulu, Government (should) enact legislation that clearly outlines procedures for state funerals, (as) the current situation has exposed gaps in the legal framework. Such legislation would help the nation to manage similar situations more effectively in the future. Hopefully, in this way, we can avoid the rather unfortunate circumstances that we have quite recently found ourselves in.

YOUNG FEMALE LAWYER (FROM NORTHERN PROVINCE) INSPIRING THE NEXT GENERATION OF LEGAL MINDS

By Nsatusile Mgode

As the saying goes, “when you educate a girl, you educate a nation”, this timeless wisdom was embodied by an inspiring young female lawyer, Natasha Mwelwa, who set out to ignite the flames of ambition and legal prowess in the young hearts at St. Therese Secondary School and Kasama Girls Secondary School.

In an honourable display of mentorship and motivation, Natasha participated in the Careers Day session at St Therese and headlined the Keeping Girls in School Initiative (KGS) Symposium at Kasama Girls. At the Careers Day session, Natasha shared valuable insights on taking up law as a career, highlighting personal experience in guiding and encouraging the students. Specifically, she connected with the girls as a relatable role model who proved that glass ceilings can easily be shattered and that education remains the best equalizer.

The KGS Symposium aimed at reducing the school drop out rates in rural areas and encouraging the young girls to stay in school and choose education, some of the topics discussed during this session included:

- The value of education in achieving personal and professional goals;
- Overcoming obstacles and persevering in the face of adversity;
- The importance of self-



confidence, self-worth, and resilience; and

- Career opportunities and role models in law and other fields.

The students were engaged, enthusiastic, and asked thought-provoking questions. The symposium provided a platform for them to share their aspirations and concerns, and she also encouraged them to support one another in achieving their goals.

The role of Lawyers in society was well exemplified by the engagements orchestrated by Natasha. LAZ proudly supports and encourages these vital avenues in empowering the girl child.



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LAZ ACTIVITIES LATELY...

By Gloria Mumba – Kalambo, LAZ Communications Officer

PRESS STATEMENTS

LAZ CALLS FOR DUE PROCESS AND RESPECT FOR CITIZENS' RIGHTS

On 21st August 2025, the Law Association of Zambia (LAZ) issued a Press Statement expressing concern over the continued disregard of citizens' constitutional rights by the Zambia Police Service in the manner that suspects are treated while in custody. LAZ emphasised that suspects must be accorded their full legal rights, including access to representation and being presented before a court of law within 24 hours if not bonded. "It is LAZ's firm belief that this must be done in strict adherence to the law to safeguard the constitutional rights of the suspects," the Statement read in part.

The Association also raised alarm over reports of suspects being detained on bailable offences without being taken to court, and others being denied habeas corpus applications. LAZ noted that "Charged with the obligation of enforcing the law, the Zambia Police Service has a duty to ensure that they discharge this sacred function with integrity, impartiality and devoid of any political biases..." In addition, LAZ condemned a widely circulated video of a young man tied with ropes, allegedly beaten by community members on suspicion of theft, urging citizens not to take the law into their own hands.

LAZ HOSTS NORWEGIAN MINISTER FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT



On Monday, 28th July 2025, the Law Association of Zambia (LAZ) Council, led by President Mr. Lungisani Zulu, had the honour of hosting His Excellency Åsmund Grøver Aukrust, Minister for International Development of the Kingdom of Norway, at LAZ House. The engagement focused on governance and key areas of LAZ's mandate.

In attendance were LAZ Council members Mr. Anthony Kasolo and Ms. Valarie Kawangu, together with Executive Director Mr. Edward Sakala. The meeting also brought together two distinguished civil society leaders: Ms. Laura Miti, Executive Director of the Alliance for Community Action, and Dr. Marja Hinfelaar, Director of Research and Programs at the Southern Africa Institute for Policy and Research (SAIPAR).

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LAZ SIGNS MOU WITH FAMILY DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVES TO PROMOTE GOOD GOVERNANCE AND LEGAL EMPOWERMENT

In a strategic step towards strengthening good governance, civic education, and social accountability, the Law Association of Zambia (LAZ) on 1st August 2025, LAZ signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Family Development Initiatives (FDI). The signing ceremony brought together the two institutions, with LAZ Council Members led by President Mr. Lungisani Zulu and the FDI delegation led by Team Leader Mr. Yussuf Ayami. The partnership underscores a shared commitment to uplifting vulnerable and rural communities through legal empowerment and community-driven development. The MoU sets out areas of cooperation including joint project implementation, provision of legal and technical support, and coordinated advocacy for social justice and inclusive development.



LAZ AND ZIALE EXPLORE STRENGTHENED COLLABORATION



On 1st August 2025, the Law Association of Zambia (LAZ) hosted a courtesy call from the Zambia Institute of Advanced Legal Education (ZIALE) at LAZ House in Lusaka. The ZIALE delegation was led by its Director, Mr. Fabian M. Mayondi, while the LAZ Council was led by President Mr. Lungisani Zulu. The meeting served as a pivotal platform for both institutions to engage on matters of mutual interest and explore avenues for enhanced collaboration. Discussions centred on strengthening institutional ties and developing joint initiatives in key areas such as legal research, capacity building, and professional development within the legal sector. Both parties reaffirmed their commitment to advancing the standards of legal practice and education in Zambia through continued partnership.

LAZ STRENGTHENS COLLABORATION WITH UP ZAMBIA TO ENHANCE ACCESS TO JUSTICE



On 6th August 2025, the Law Association of Zambia (LAZ), led by its Vice President, Ms. Matilda Kaoma Chileshe, held a strategic engagement with UP Zambia at LAZ House. The discussions centred on areas of collaboration under the LAZ Prison Decongestion Programme, with both institutions reaffirming their shared commitment to advancing access to justice for all. UP Zambia is a key stakeholder in this space, particularly through its pioneering Mobile Courts Project, an initiative designed to expedite court processes and improve efficiency within the Zambian judicial system. The engagement marked another important step in fostering partnerships that will contribute to a more accessible and effective justice system in Zambia.

UP Zambia is a key stakeholder in this space, particularly through its pioneering Mobile Courts Project, an initiative designed to expedite court processes and improve efficiency within the Zambian judicial system.

LAZ RECEIVES BOOK DONATION FROM MS. LEYA MTONGA NGOMA



On 8th August 2025, the Law Association of Zambia (LAZ) received a copy of “Encounters with the Intimacy of Corporate Governance Practice” from its author, Ms. Leya Mtonga Ngoma. The book was officially handed over at LAZ House and received by LAZ President, Mr. Lungisani Zulu, Honorary Secretary, Mr. Arnold Kaluba, Council Member, Mr. Mulenga Sholomo, and Executive Director, Mr. Edward Sakala. This insightful publication underscores corporate governance as the ethical backbone of sustainable institutions and provides practical guidance for lawyers, professionals, and the general public. Please grab your copy from LAZ!



LAZ SOCCER QUEENS FINISH AS RUNNERS-UP AT CORPORATE SOCIAL TOURNAMENT

On 9th August 2025, the LAZ Soccer Queens secured 2nd place at the inaugural Corporate Social Tournament held at Twalumba Sports Complex. The team won three out of four matches, beating NATSAVE (1-0), Prudential (2-0), and Zambia Airports Corporation (1-0) and finished with 9 points, just behind Access Bank. For their strong performance, the Queens walked away with K20,000 in prize money and a branded match ball, making LAZ proud both on and off the pitch. Congratulations!



LAZ STRENGTHENS PRISON DECONGESTION EFFORTS IN KABWE



On 21st August 2025, a team of lawyers led by LAZ Vice President, Ms. Matilda Kaoma Chileshe, visited the Kabwe Correctional Facility as part of the LAZ Prison Decongestion Programme, in partnership with UP Zambia. The team rendered legal assistance to inmates in both the male and female sections, while also making donations of sanitary supplies to the women's section and essential items for circumstantial children housed at the facility. This visit underscores LAZ's commitment to advancing access to justice and promoting the welfare and dignity of vulnerable groups in correctional facilities. LAZ Members are encouraged to take part in the Prison Decongestion Programme and contribute their time and expertise to bringing hope and justice to those who need it most.

LAZ AND HAUT-KATANGA BAR ASSOCIATION SIGN HISTORIC TWINNING AGREEMENT



From 22nd to 24th August 2025, the Law Association of Zambia (LAZ), led by President Mr. Lungisani Zulu, hosted the Haut-Katanga Bar Association of the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), under the leadership of its President, Mr. Jean-Paul Kitenge.

The highlight of the visit was the signing of a historic Twinning Agreement, which sets the stage for enhanced collaboration between the two Associations and the strengthening of bilateral relations in the legal fraternity. Beyond the formal engagements, members from both Associations shared in moments of camaraderie through various social activities. These included friendly football matches featuring both men's and women's teams. This milestone marks an important step in deepening regional partnerships and promoting cross-border exchange within the legal profession.

2025 LAZ MARATHON SUCCESSFULLY HELD IN NDOLA

The **2025 LAZ Marathon** took place on 30th August 2025 at **Kafubu Mall in Ndola**, featuring **5km, 10km, 21km**, and a **42km Virtual Run**. The event brought together athletes and the community in a celebration of wellness, endurance, and unity.

In the 21km Race, winners were:

- **Male** – 1st place: **Aaron Hiyamwa** | 2nd place: **Vista Simalumba** | 3rd place: **Chris Chilufya**
- **Female** – 1st place: **Charity Mulenga** | 2nd place: **Hope Nyirongo Phaless** | 3rd place: **Grace Mwila**

In the 10km Race, winners were:

- **Male** – 1st place: **Olivie Sadiki** | 2nd place: **Joseph Munongo** | 3rd place: **Paul Chinyama**
- **Female** – 1st place: **Wendy Namwila** | 2nd place: **Reevon Shamambo** | 3rd place: **Hellen Phiri**

The **5km Race** drew enthusiastic participation, while the 42km Virtual Run enabled runners from various locations to take part remotely.

During the marathon, the LAZ Legal Aid and Pro Bono Services Committee hosted a Free Mobile Legal Clinic at Kafubu Mall in Ndola. During the clinic, lawyers offered members of the public free legal support and advice, reinforcing LAZ's commitment to promoting Access to



Justice for All.

Sponsors of the marathon's water points and support stations included: **Hara & Co., K Tembo & Co., ZAFFICO, Roy Mwala & Company, AMW & Company, James & Doris,**

Equitas Legal Practitioners, KMG Chisanga Advocates, and Sil & Kay Advocates. LAZ extends sincere appreciation to all participants, winners, and sponsors for making the 2025 edition a resounding success.



LAZ HOLDS INAUGURAL SUMMER SCHOOL IN SIAVONGA

The Law Association of Zambia (LAZ) successfully held its Inaugural Summer School in Siavonga from 22nd to 26th September 2025, under the theme “Beyond the Basics: Mastering Compliance, M&A, Capital Markets and Tax Laws.”

The five-day retreat-style learning programme brought together legal practitioners, regulators, and thought leaders for an enriching week of professional development, collaboration, and reflection. The event was officially opened by Siavonga District Commissioner, Mr. Geoffrey Jakopo, who officiated alongside LAZ President, Mr. Lungisani Zulu, and Malawi Law Society President, Mr. Davies Njobvu.

In his opening remarks, Mr. Zulu described the Summer School as a “historic milestone for the Association and the legal profession in Zambia,” adding that it represents LAZ’s commitment to continuous learning and innovation in a rapidly evolving legal and business environment. The Summer School featured a series of intensive and interactive sessions covering a wide range of topics, including: regulatory compliance in Zambia’s financial sector; capital markets and regulatory insights; and mergers and acquisitions, among others. The sessions were delivered by seasoned professionals and regulatory experts drawn from key institutions such as the Bank of Zambia, Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC), Zambia Revenue Authority, Stanbic Bank Zambia, COMESA Competition Commission and others.

On the first day, delegates were treated to a lively Welcome Cocktail and Cake-Cutting Ceremony, marking the official start of the Summer School. The evening provided an opportunity for participants to network, relax, and set the tone for a week of both serious learning and meaningful engagement. True to its retreat-style format, the Summer



School also offered a balance of academic enrichment and recreational activities. Delegates took part in a variety of leisure experiences, including Karaoke and Dance Night, a Fun Night with interactive games, a Boat Cruise, and tours of the iconic Kariba Dam.

The Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) proudly partnered with LAZ as the Gold Sponsor, while Reagan Blankfein Gates supported the event as the Silver Sponsor. Their generous contributions, along with the participation of esteemed institutions and law firms, played a pivotal role in ensuring the success of this inaugural Summer School. As delegates departed Siavonga, there was a shared sense of fulfillment and optimism that the LAZ Summer School will become a hallmark event in the Association’s annual calendar, offering not only academic growth but also personal renewal and professional connection.

LAZ ENHANCES DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION WITH THE LAUNCH OF THE LAZ DIGITAL CHANNEL

In a bold step toward strengthening digital transformation and service delivery, the Law Association of Zambia (LAZ) has unveiled the LAZ Digital Channel, an innovative platform designed to streamline member services and enhance accessibility. The launch took place during the inaugural LAZ Summer School, held in September 2025, marking a key milestone in LAZ's efforts to integrate technology into its operations and enhance efficiency across its membership. Developed in partnership with Protean Communities Zambia, the technology partner behind LAZ's single licensing digital platform, this new initiative represents the next phase of the Association's digital journey. The LAZ Digital Channel brings together essential services such as licensing, e-learning for Continuing Professional Development (CPD), event management among other functions, all in one convenient and user-friendly platform. This integration is designed to simplify processes, promote transparency, and foster stronger connections among members of the legal fraternity. The introduction of the LAZ Digital Channel underscores LAZ's commitment to leveraging technology as a key enabler of growth and improved member experience. By digitizing core administrative and professional functions, LAZ continues to position itself as a forward-thinking institution, responsive to the evolving needs of its members and the demands of a modern legal profession.



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2025 LAZ ANNUAL SPORTS DAY: A DAY OF ENERGY, TEAM SPIRIT, AND FUN



The 2025 Law Association of Zambia (LAZ) Annual Sports Day, held on Saturday, 4th October 2025 at UNILUS – Silverest Campus, was a spectacular celebration of fitness, friendly competition, and camaraderie. Members of the legal fraternity came together to showcase their talent, teamwork, and sportsmanship, turning the day into a true festival of unity and fun. LAZ was delighted to welcome participants from other esteemed institutions, including the Judiciary, the Zambia Institute of Human Resource

Management, and Chinama Hospital, whose involvement added to the excitement and spirit of the day. The excitement continued with a lively After Party and Awards Ceremony at The Writ, where winners were recognised and celebrated for their outstanding performances on the field.

The 2025 LAZ Annual Sports Day was not just about competition and fitness, it was about fostering connections, unwinding, and embracing the spirit of teamwork.

LAZ HOSTS COURTESY VISIT FROM PAN AFRICAN LAWYERS UNION

On Monday, 6th October 2025, the Law Association of Zambia (LAZ) hosted a courtesy visit from representatives of the Pan African Lawyers Union (PALU), Ms. Junecynthia Okelo and Mr. Nelson Sidney Ndeki. The meeting provided a valuable platform for engagement between LAZ and PALU, focusing on opportunities for future collaboration on Climate Justice initiatives. The discussions centered on advancing environmental governance and promoting sustainable legal frameworks across the African continent. The visit underscored the shared commitment of both institutions to strengthening regional cooperation and empowering legal professionals to champion environmental sustainability through law and policy.



LAZ HOSTS COURTESY VISIT FROM THE UNITED NATIONS HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR HUMAN RIGHTS (OHCHR) REGIONAL OFFICE

On Monday, 7th October 2025, the Law Association of Zambia (LAZ) received a courtesy visit from a delegation from the Regional Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR). The delegation was in Lusaka to attend the African Business 2025 & Human Rights Forum, which took place from 7th to 9th October 2025. The visiting UN team comprised Ms. Abigail Noko, OHCHR Regional Representative for Southern Africa; Ms. Noria Mashumba, Peace and Development Advisor at the United Nations in Zambia; and Ms. Sekani Bwalya, Assistant Human Rights Officer. Representing LAZ at the meeting were President Mr. Lungisani Zulu, Vice President Ms. Matilda Chileshe Kaoma,



and Executive Director Mr. Edward Sakala. Discussions during the meeting focused on LAZ's mandate, challenges and opportunities in promoting and protecting human rights in Zambia, and potential areas for strengthening collaboration between LAZ and the OHCHR.

The visit reaffirmed LAZ's ongoing commitment to advancing human rights and its readiness to work closely with regional and international partners to ensure the protection and promotion of fundamental freedoms in Zambia.

LAZ JOINS IN THE LAUNCH AND COMMEMORATION OF CHILD JUSTICE WEEK 2025



On Thursday, 9th October 2025, at the Government Complex in Lusaka, the Law Association of Zambia (LAZ) joined the Judiciary, the Ministry of Community Development and Social Services, the National Prosecution Authority, and the Zambia Police Service, alongside the Child Justice Sector Institutional Frameworks, in successfully launching Child Justice Week 2025, under the theme: “Empowering Children and Communities: Enhancing Participation, Prevention and Restorative Reintegration in Child Justice.” During the launch, several key frameworks aimed at strengthening the administration of child justice in Zambia were unveiled, including:

- a) The Revised Chief Justice Strategy & Action Plan (2022–2026);
- b) The National Diversion Framework; c) The Prosecutors’ Handbook on Sexual Violence
- d) The Zambia Police Guidance on Handling Children in the Criminal Justice System; and
- e) The Prosecutors’ Guidelines in the Management of Children in the Criminal Justice System.

In line with the nationwide commemoration, the LAZ Copperbelt Chapter also joined in observing Child Justice Week 2025 in Ndola on Monday, 13th October 2025.

LAZ AND CBU COLLABORATE TO STRENGTHEN LEGAL EDUCATION



The Copperbelt University (CBU) on Thursday, 9th October 2025, held a productive stakeholder consultative meeting with the Law Association of Zambia (LAZ) to explore ways of enhancing legal education and aligning academic programmes with the evolving demands of the legal profession. The CBU delegation was led by Dr. Patricia Kamanga, Dean of the School of Humanities and Social Sciences, and included Mr. Ulrich Kauert, Head of the Department of Law, and Dr. Lennox Samamba. The LAZ delegation, led by President Mr. Lungisani Zulu, comprised the Honorary Secretary Mr. Arnold Kaluba, Council Member Mr. Kennedy Mambwe, and Executive Director Mr. Edward Sakala. The discussions focused on reviewing the existing law curriculum, developing new courses, and strengthening collaboration between academia and the legal profession. The partnership reaffirms the shared commitment of both institutions to nurture competent, ethical, and practice-ready lawyers who will contribute effectively to Zambia's justice system and national development.

REMEMBERING THE SOULS OF OUR DEPARTED MEMBERS



MR. BUCHIZYA MHONI

The late Mr. Buchizya Mhoni was born on 31st August 1991 and passed away on Tuesday, 5th August 2025, at the age of 33. Mr. Mhoni served as Senior State Advocate at the Attorney General's Chambers and was called to the Bar in October 2021. He will be remembered for his dedication, professionalism, and service to the nation.

May his soul rest in eternal peace.



MR. MULENGA EDWARD MUKUKA

The late Mr. Mulenga Edward Mukuka of E.M. Mukuka & Company, Kabwe, was born on 22nd August 1952 and passed away on Wednesday, 6th August 2025. Mr. Mukuka was called to the Bar in 1982 and was celebrated for his dedication to the legal profession and his service to justice. A valedictory session in his honour was held at the Kabwe High Court on Saturday, 9th August 2025.

May his soul rest in eternal peace.



MS. MARY NYONI

The late Ms. Mary Nyoni passed away on Sunday, 10th August 2025. She served as Senior Public Prosecutor at the National Prosecution Authority (NPA) and was remembered as a cheerful and joyous soul who touched many lives with warmth and positivity. In tribute, LAZ presented her legal regalia and the Association's flag to her children, honouring her dedicated service to the profession and the nation.

May her soul rest in eternal peace.

REMEMBERING THE SOULS OF OUR DEPARTED MEMBERS



MS. ANGELA NYIRENDA

The late Ms. Angela Nyirenda passed away on Wednesday, 10th September 2025, and was put to rest on 13th September 2025. She was an advocate with the National Prosecution Authority (NPA), described by those who worked close to her as a dedicated and passionate advocate, whose bubbly spirit and kind soul touched many lives.

May her soul rest in eternal peace.



MR. SIMUCHOBA SIBANZE

Mr. Simuchoba Sibanze, passed away on Monday, 27th October 2025, at Levy Mwanawasa University Teaching Hospital in Lusaka. He was a respected member of the Bar and a seasoned legal practitioner who served as Managing Partner at NKM and Associates. Beyond his contributions to the legal profession, he also served the nation as Permanent Secretary for Southern Province, where he was known for his professionalism, and dedication to public service. Throughout his career, Mr. Sibanze was admired for his calm leadership, mentorship of young lawyers, and unwavering commitment to justice. His passing is a great loss to the legal fraternity and to the country at large.

May his soul rest in eternal peace.



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The Lawyer's Insight

A LAZ NEWSLETTER • ISSUE 7, OCTOBER 2025

PUBLICATION CALENDAR

January 30th - Submission Deadline

February - Newsletter published
(Special Women's Month edition)

March 30th - Submission Deadline

April - Newsletter published

May 30th - Submission Deadline

June - Newsletter published

July 30th - Submission Deadline

August - Newsletter published

September 30th - Submission Deadline

October - Newsletter published (Special
Independence Celebrations Edition)

November 30th - Submission Deadline

December - Newsletter published
(Special Xmas Edition)

UPCOMING EVENTS

International Bar Association (IBA) Annual Conference

Dates: 2nd to 7th November 2025

Venue: Toronto, Canada

LAZ End of Year Party - Lusaka

Date: 12th December 2025

Venue: TBA

LAZ End of Year Party - Ndola

Date: 5th December 2025

Venue: TBA

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