



THE JUDICIARY OF UGANDA  
PERFORMANCE REPORT FOR THE  
COURT OF APPEAL / CONSTITUTIONAL  
COURT  
2024

PRESENTED FOR COURT BY THE HON MR JUSTICE GEOFFREY KIRYABWIRE  
COURT ADMINISTRATOR

# SCOPE OF THE REPORT

REPORTING  
PERIOD

- CALENDAR YEAR 2024

PRESENTED ON  
BEHALF OF

- THE HON THE DEPUTY CHIEF JUSTICE

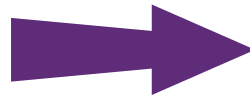
COVERING

- COURT COMPOSITION
- COURT PERFORMANCE
- COURT ACTIVITIES
- ACHIEVEMENTS & CHALLENGES

HARD COPY REPORT TO BE DISTRIBUTED



# Transition to the new premise



# Human Resource

The Overall human resource at the court of appeal during the year under consideration was Judicial officers and other judiciary staff stood at 153.

## Registrars and Magistrates

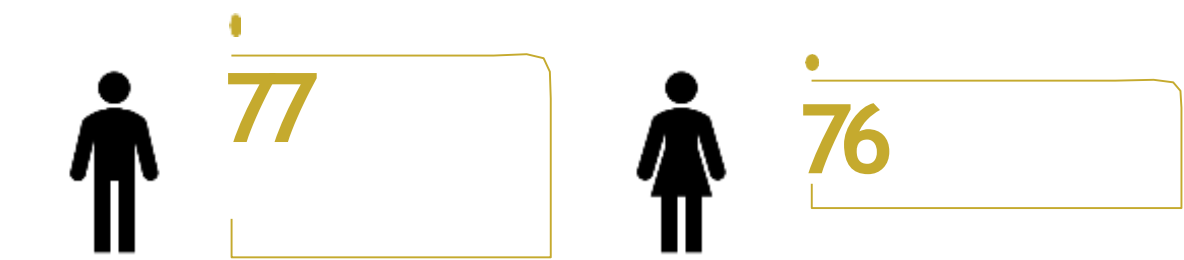


## Judiciary Staff

2023 - 117

2024 - 121

## Gender Distribution



## Human resource

Following the passing of the Judicature (Amendment) Act of 2024, the court's structure was expanded to 35 justices, including the Deputy Chief Justice

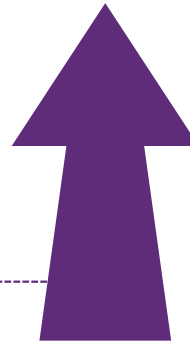


Administration of the Judiciary Act  
(Amendment of 2024)

35 Justices

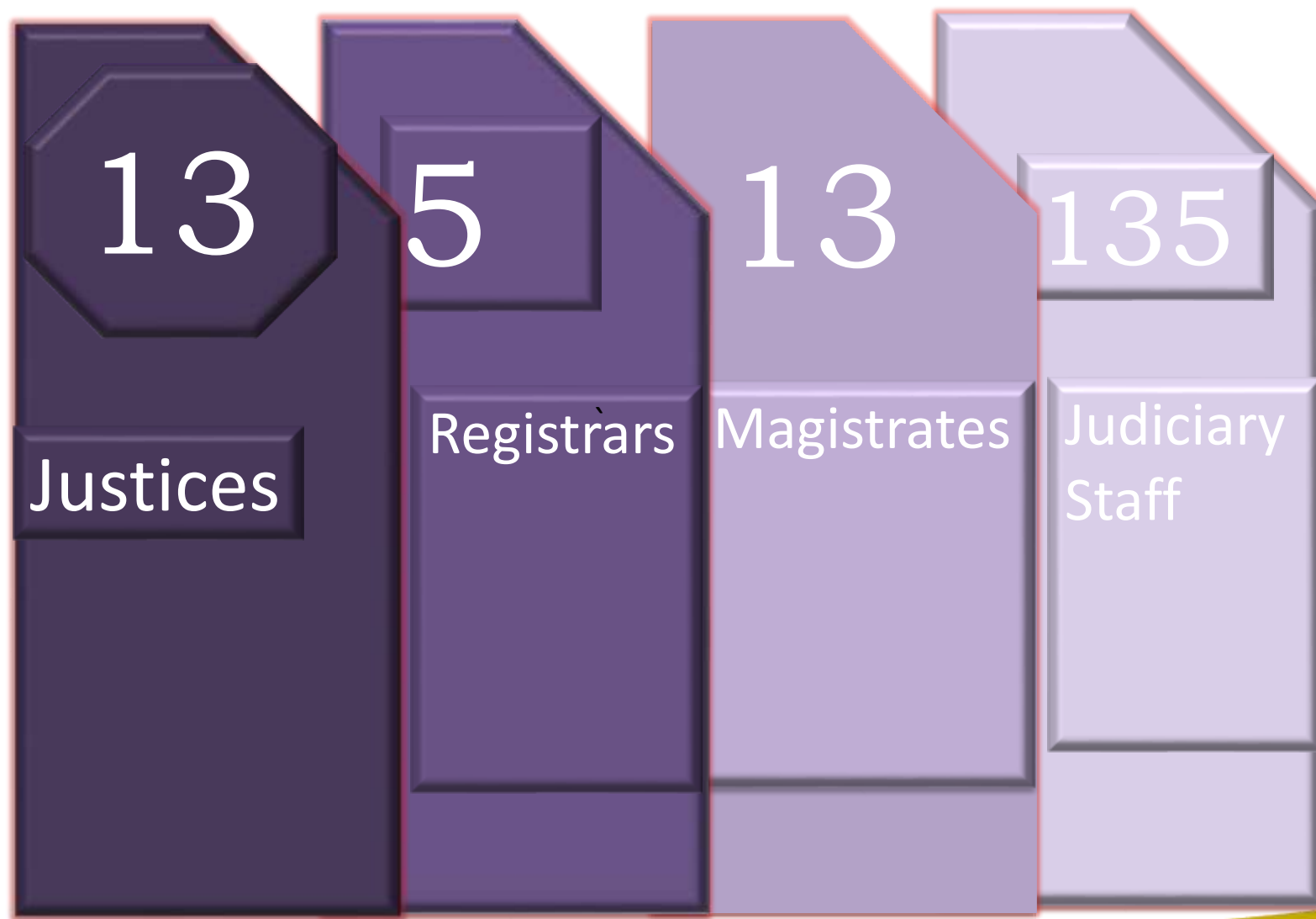
15 Justices

From

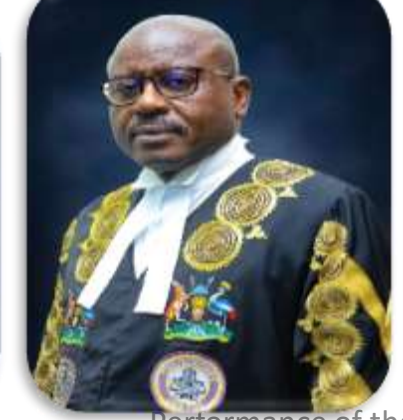




# Human Resource



## Other Justices of the Court of Appeal/ Constitutional Court





## Changes of Justices at the Court of Appeal.

ELEVATED

IN





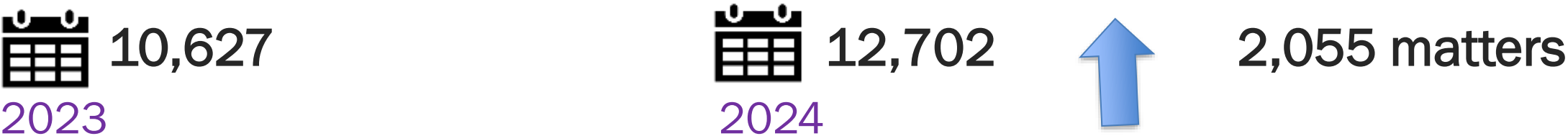
## Performance of the Court throughout the calendar year 2024

Month	Brought Forward	Registered	Completed	Pending
January	10,647	240	51	10,836
February	10,836	286	70	11,052
March	11,052	322	73	11,301
April	11,301	236	68	11,470
May	11,470	285	80	11,675
June	11,675	201	72	11,804
July	11,804	305	113	11,996
August	11,996	360	135	12,221
September	12,221	251	130	12,342
October	12,342	290	119	12,513
November	12,513	284	157	12,640
December	12,640	245	183	12,702
<b>Total</b>	<b>10,647</b>	<b>3,305</b>	<b>1,251</b>	<b>12,702</b>



# Calendar year 2024 ANALYSIS

## WORKLOAD



## AVERAGE FILINGS



## AVERAGE DISPOSAL



# REGISTRIES OF THE COURT AND THEIR PERFORMANCE

- Civil Registry

Case Category	Brought Forward	Registered			Completed			Pending
	2024	2022	2023	2024	2022	2023	2024	2024
Civil Appeals	3,431	549	1,368	1,094	141	114	122	4,403
Civil Applications	2,298	524	797	771	229	321	400	2,669
Civil References	33	12	28	43	-	3	6	70
Civil Revisions	2	-	2	8	-	-	1	2
Election Petitions	11	4	12	4	78	5	4	5
Election Petition Applications	14	50	19	4	74	8	7	11
Taxation Applications	124	54	91	87	40	64	42	169
Taxation Reference	10	12	7	7	-	2	3	14
Execution Miscellaneous Applications	56	-	12	21	-	2	14	63
Miscellaneous Applications	80	9	73	90	1	2	1	171
Miscellaneous Causes	24	14	11	1	1	0	1	
Total	6,083	1,228	2,420	2,130	564	521	601	7,577



# CIVIL REGISTRY ANALYSIS

➤ Sudden Jump in filings




2022 = 1,228

 **2** 

2023 = 2,420

2024 = 2,1130

➤ Trends in Appeals & Applications Registered (without Mis Appl & Mis Causes)

			
	2022	2023	2024
1. CIVIL APPEALS	549	1,368	1,094
2, CIVIL APPLICATIONS	524	797	771
3. Completed	564	521	601



## The improved performance in the Civil Registry can be attributed to:

- Deliberate steps taken to prioritise writing of judgments
- Weed out sessions carried out
- Justices adopted the practice of determining the main application simultaneously with the applications for interim orders.



# Constitutional Registry

Case Category	Brought Forward	Registered			Completed			Pending
	2024	2022	2023	2024	2022	2023	2024	2024
Constitutional Petitions	140	45	36	26	40	64	37	129
Constitutional Petition Applications	75	15	45	21	23	97	17	79
Constitutional References	2	1	1	2	0	0	0	4
<b>Total</b>	<b>217</b>	<b>61</b>	<b>82</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>63</b>	<b>161</b>	<b>54</b>	<b>212</b>





# Criminal registry

Case Category	Brought Forward	Registered			Completed			Pending
	2024	2022	2023	2024	2022	2023	2024	2024
Criminal Appeals	3,560	318	614	753	237	430	443	3,870
Criminal Applications	430	91	137	117	12	5	4	543
Criminal Miscellaneous Applications	0	0	0	4	0	0	0	4
Criminal Taxation Applications	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	2
Criminal Execution Msc. Applications	1	0	1	1	0	0	0	2
Criminal Reference	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
Criminal Miscellaneous Cause	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>3,991</b>	<b>409</b>	<b>752</b>	<b>879</b>	<b>249</b>	<b>435</b>	<b>447</b>	<b>4,423</b>



## The performance for the period under review is attributed to;

- Nearly doubled the number of decisions in criminal from 249 in 2022 to 447 in 2024
- Early session preparation and coordination with other criminal appeals actors.
- The Uganda Prisons Services provide timely reports on the Appellants' status ahead of the appeals, while the prosecution agencies file submissions on time.
- The pre-hearing and post-session case management meetings have equally contributed to more efficient case disposal.



# Appellate Mediation

Case Category	Brought Forward	Registered			Completed			Pending
	2024	2022	2023	2024	2022	2023	2024	2024
Constitutional Petitions	159	78	89	245	35	60	166	140
<b>Total</b>	<b>140</b>	<b>78</b>	<b>89</b>	<b>245</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>166</b>	<b>140</b>





# Appellate Mediation ANALYSIS

## WORKLOAD



2022  
249

UP



3



2024  
447

## PARTICIPANTS & SUBJECT MATTERS

GoU; Banks; Land Disputes; succession; Divorce; labour; Company matters etc

## GAINS

- ✓ Successful mediations = 6 civil sessions disposed of
- ✓ Faster (no mediation file classified as backlog)
- ✓ Cheaper (especially on costs)
- ✓ Reduces existing caseload & backlog



- Backlog

CASE TYPE	< 1 year	> 2 years	Between 2-5 years	Between 5-10 years	> 10 years	Total Pending	Total Case Backlog	%Age Backlog
Criminal	874	742	1133	1,173	530	4,452	2,836	63.70
Constitutional cases	47	71	73	22	2	215	97	45.12
Civil	1,901	1784	2,016	1709	156	7,566	3,881	51.30
Election Cases	8	7	2	0	0	17	2	11.76
Taxation Application	83	57	50	0	0	190	50	26.32
Mediation Cause	130	29	102	1	0	262	103	39.31
<b>Total Pending for Court of Appeal</b>	<b>3,043</b>	<b>2,690</b>	<b>3,376</b>	<b>2,905</b>	<b>688</b>	<b>12,702</b>	<b>6,969</b>	<b>54.87</b>



# Achievements

## New Premise

Shifted from TWED towers to Plot 2



## Mentorship

A number of former clerks were appointed Magistrate grade 1

## Online handing of cases

Both hearings and judgements held virtually

## Appellate Mediation

Registry achieved

166

settlements  $\approx 7$   
Civil Sessions

1,250

Cases disposed off, credit to early preparations

## Appointments

3 more justices were appointed to the Court of Appeal.

## Regional courts

Sessions held in every region of the country.





# ACTIVITIES



# Challenges

- 1.Reconstitution of panels or collapsed panels
- 2.Failure to hold a retreat for Justices of Appeal within the year but held in January 2025
- 3.Incomplete lower court records
- 4.Need for on job training
- 8.Amendment of the Court of Appeal Rules and Legal Framework of Appellate Mediation
- 9.Reconstitution of panels or collapsed panels



## Congratulating Hon. Justice Dr. Fredrick S. Egonda-Ntende



Justice Fredrick S. Egonda-Ntende - PHD (Honoris Causa) for exceptional contribution to the Law



## The Hon. Mr. Justice Richard Buteera - Deputy Chief Justice



Virtual medal  
for  
Distinguished  
Service to the  
Court of Appeal



# Conclusion

- The Court of Appeal / Constitutional Court has made an effort to implement its mandate in 2023. In spite of the challenges, post-COVID-19 and the lower number of members of the Court, it is notable that the number of cases disposed of increased.
- The members of the Court look forward to welcoming more Justices to the court, in view of the fact that two of the current members have been elevated to the Supreme Court. We congratulate them and wish them God's blessing and success in their new assignment.
- We undertake to do better in the coming year and call for all the necessary support to help the Court achieve its dual mandate.





