

More time to receive Sh200m parties' fund

BY ALPHONCE MUNG'AHU

THE High Court has given the Registrar of Political Parties more time to distribute Sh200 million allocated to political parties by the government.

Lucy Ngung'u has been ordered by Justice Kapana Rawal to distribute the funds allocated to PNU according to the law.

The judge issued the order after hearing an application filed in the High Court by Narc-K. They were seeking orders to compel the registrar to distribute the funds according to the number of parliamentary and civic votes garnered by affiliate parties during the last general election.

When the matter came up for mention, the court was informed by Narc-K lawyer Cecil Miller that the registrar had not yet complied.

The judge gave her up to January 21 to distribute the funds among the all the 27 affiliate parties of PNU.

Narc-K Chair Martha Karua accused the registrar of abdicating her role of distributing funds to political parties.

Justice Rawal had upheld Narc-K lawyer Miller's legal contention that the registrar did not discharge her duties as required under the law. The judge had also declined the request by the registrar to allow PNU to distribute the funds to its affiliates.

She rejected the position that all 27 affiliate parties of PNU are a single entity. She pointed out that Section 30 of the Political Parties Act requires the registrar to allocate the funds according to the number of parliamentary and civic votes garnered by each party.

In his submission, Miller told the court that Narc-K delivered over two million votes and is therefore entitled to 80 per cent of the funds allocated to PNU. He said that the law requires each party to get 15 per cent of the funds allocated and the balance to be shared according to the number of votes garnered.

The case will be mentioned on January 21 when the registrar is expected to have complied with the court orders.



DISPUTE: Registrar of Political Parties Lucy Ndung'u.

Granny accused of stealing dead men's land

BY JAMES WAKAHIU

AN elderly woman was arraigned before a Thika court charged with conspiring to defraud two deceased persons of their land and settling on it.

Gladys Mwihiaki Mwangi denied the two counts before Senior Resident Magistrate Barbra A. Owino.

The accused had been charged that between August 1, and September

30, 2008 at Kambiti Trading Centre in Muranga County, she conspired to defraud the late Waweru Kamau and Ng'ang'a Gichimu of land parcel number Makuyu/Kambiti/Block II /694.

The second count stated that between September 30, 2008 and September 27, 2009 she held possession of the parcel and settled there in a manner likely to cause a breach of peace, against the family of the

deceased who are entitled by law to possession of the land.

Defence counsel Mbiyu Kamau successfully applied for his client to be granted bond and an option of cash bail. Gladys was released on a bond of Sh200,000 and surety of similar amount. She was alternatively granted cash bail of Sh50,000.

The case will be heard on February 2.

Bus bombing suspects trial set for February

BY CAROLE MAINA

THE trial of two Al-Shabaab suspects linked to the December 20 Nairobi bus blast will begin next month.

A Nairobi court set the case against Muslim cleric Aboud Rogo Mohamed and Mombasa Muslim elder Abubakar Sharif Abubakar alias Makaburi, for February.

The suspects were arraigned before principal magistrate Kennedy Bidali and will be tried separately. Rogo was acquitted on

June 9, 2005 by Mombasa high court judge John Osimo of killing 15 people in the 2002 Kikambala hotel bombing.

Histrial will begin on February 4, while Abubakar's starts on February 11.

Last week the two failed in their bid to be released on bond pending trial. They have been accused that on December 21 at Kanamai in Kilifi district, they were found engaging in illegal activity by being members of Al-Shabaab.

While denying them bail, Nairobi magistrate Grace

Ngenye said Mohamed and Abubakar were "believed to be trained Al-Shabaab militia who frequent Somalia to get in touch with the deadly group that has been outlawed in Kenya".

They filed a second application at the high court but Justice Mohammed Warsame declined to hear it saying their case had no urgency. He directed them to return on January 20 to argue their application.

Officers claim a notebook recovered from the scene contained telephone contacts of the two suspects.

State pays medical supplies company Sh123m

BY ALPHONCE MUNG'AHU

THE Government has finally settled payments of Sh123 million for medical equipment supplied by a private firm, Milimani Commercial Court was told.

Dol International Limited had sued the Ministry of Medical Services for refusing to receive and pay for contractual goods that had been procured by the company pursuant to various contracts.

When the matter came up for mention before Justice Muga Apondi, the company



CHARGED: Nine Ethiopian nationals at the High Court.

Ethiopians plead guilty to being in Kenya illegally

BY CAROLE MAINA

NINE Ethiopians yesterday pleaded guilty to charges of being in Kenya illegally.

They were each fined Sh100,000 or one year jail term in default, after which they will be deported to Ethiopia.

Nairobi Magistrate Grace Ngenye sentenced them yesterday after they admitted to being in the country without a permit and contravening the immigration act.

The court heard that they were arrested by Loitokitok Border Control within Loitokitok district while attempting to leave Kenya for Tanzania.

The immigration told court the foreigners were found with forged Ethiopian passports.

Not being citizens of

Kenya, the magistrate found them unlawfully present in the country as they had no valid entry permits or passes.

At the same court an employee of the New Kenya Cooperative Creameries suspected to have stolen 54 bags of cream powder milk was charged.

The 54 bags of 25 kg of full cream powder milk, worth Sh365,000, went missing on August 24 2010.

Simon Kaharo, a company driver, was accused of stealing the milk while in transit from Kiganjo New Kenya Cooperative Creameries to the Dandora factory.

The magistrate ordered him to pay a cash bail of Sh10,000 to secure relapse pending trial.

His case was set for February 18.

23-year-old charged with sodomising boy

BY BETH MBATIA

A 23-year-old has been charged in a Makadara court with sodomising a six-year-old boy at Mgunda village in Nairobi.

Ephantus Mwangi, a Gikomba hawker denied the charges before Principal Magistrate Theresia Murigi.

He is accused of committing the offense on November 10, 2010, contrary to section 162 a(i) of the penal code.

Ephantus, an immediate neighbour of the boy, offered to escort him home at 10 pm from another neighbour's house.

On their way home Ephantus allegedly persuaded the boy to pull his pants down and threatened to beat him when he hesitated.

Screams from the boy attracted his father and a neighbour who found the pants soiled in a bush.

They reported the matter to the police station the following day and took the child to Nairobi Womens Hospital.

Ephantus was arrested on the December 21.

Five witnesses were listed for the case whose hearing date was to be communicated later.

The suspect was released on a bond of Sh100,000.

the transaction, saying the tender was obtained fraudulently.

However, it was found that the public was going to lose Sh40 million due to the delay of collection of the items. The items were urgently needed in all provincial and district hospitals across the country.

The court heard that the Medical Services ministry and Dol International are negotiating the remaining part of the damages before the case comes up for mention on January 29 before Justice Apondi.

The remaining items were not received after the Attorney General contested