

**VOTE OF THANKS AT THE OPENING OF THE LEGAL
YEAR 2020 BY HER WORSHIP MRS. PHILANDA
CHRISTIAAN, CHIEF MAGISTRATE
SUPREME COURT OF NAMIBIA, WINDHOEK
12 FEBRUARY 2020**

**His Excellency, Dr. Hage G. Geingob, President of the
Republic of Namibia**

**His Lordship, Peter S. Shivute, Chief Justice of the
Republic of Namibia**

**Honourable Peter H. Katjavivi, Speaker of the
National Assembly**

**Honourable Bernard Sibalatani, Chairperson of the
National Council**

**And on that note, I stand on the established
protocol**

1. A warm and graceful morning to all our invited guests. It's my privilege to have been asked to propose a vote of thanks on this occasion. I stand before you with a deep sense of honour, privilege and humility, to express, on behalf of the Chief Justice, my colleagues and other participants at this gathering, our profound gratitude to

Your Excellency, Mr President, for having taken time off your many responsibilities to join us here today, and to share this occasion with us. We are very grateful indeed.

2. We are gathered here today at the ultimate seat of justice. Justice brings peace and stability which are the bedrock of safety and prosperity. The rule of law and justice for all are some of the foundational principles of our State.

3. I would like to assure the nation that this year, magistrates have recommitted themselves to working very hard and to do the best of their ability cognizant of the demands of their high office in order to achieve the highest standard of performance.

Director of Ceremonies

4. I, on behalf of Office of the Judiciary, and the entire organization, and on my own behalf extend a very hearty vote of thanks to the speakers for gracing the occasion and giving us an opportunity to tap from their wisdom.

5. I would like to thank all the respected representatives of the other organs of the State, legal fraternity and stakeholders who have blessed us with their presence.

6. A special word of thanks goes to the Namibian Correctional Service Brass Band for their beautiful and calming renditions and for always partnering with the Office of the Judiciary at the opening of the Legal Year. I would also like to thank the Office of the Judiciary choir with special features, Mr. Bongani !Garoeb and Ms. Rozay Waters for working tirelessly to come up with songs and assisting us in singing like stars. Your hard work is appreciated and will surely be rewarded.

7. I would like to thank all the respected representatives of the media houses, print as well as radio and broadcast media. And a special word of thanks to the Namibian Broadcasting Corporation, who graciously assisted our office in making sure that this event can be viewed live by the entire nation and those who live outside the borders of this beautiful Republic.

8. We owe a deep gratitude to the Office of the Judiciary, under the administrative leadership of the Executive Director, Mrs. Rolanda L. van Wyk and her team, for

having worked tirelessly in organizing this event. I cannot thank everyone enough for their involvement and their willingness to take on the completion of tasks beyond their comfort zones!

9. Last but not least, I thank the Director of Ceremonies for the orderly and swift manner in which he has directed the proceedings.

I thank you.