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MEDIA RELEASE

FORMER MONZE TOWN COUNCIL SECRETARY, COUNCILOR ARRESTED FOR CORRUPTION

Anti-Corruption Commission has arrested and charged former Monze Town Council Secretary Benson Bweenje and a former Councilor for Hamangaba Ward, Bweengwa Constituency Maybin Mudenda Choongo, for Conflict of Interest.

Mr. Benson Bweenje, 47, of house number 6, and currently Council Secretary at Itezhi Tezhi Town Council, has been charged with one (1) count of Conflict of Interest contrary to Section 28 (2) as read together with Section 41 of the Anti-Corruption Act No. 3 of 2012 of the Laws of Zambia.

Meanwhile, Mr. Maybin Mudenda Choongo, 42, Overspill Plot number 272 in Choma, has been charged with one (1) count of Conflict of Interest contrary to Paragraph 6 (1) and (7) of the Third Schedule of the Local Government Act No. 2 of 2019 of the Laws of Zambia.

It is alleged that Benson Bweenje, being a public officer, namely Council Secretary at Monze Town Council, between 1st March 2020 and 31st March 2020, in Monze District, did participate in the decision of the Monze Town Council regarding the subdivision of and change of use of plot 271 Sinaluchaba Road in Monze, without declaring interest, a matter concerning Monze Town Council, a Public Body.

It is further alleged that Maybin Mudenda Choongo, being a Councilor for Hamangaba Ward, between 1st March 2020 and 31st March 2020, in Monze District, did participate in the decision of the Monze Town Council regarding the subdivision of and change of use of plot 271 Sinaluchaba Road in Monze, without declaring interest, a matter concerning Monze Town Council, a Public Body.

Investigations have established that Plot 271 Sinaluchaba Road in Monze, initially belonged to Mr. Boyd Chongo Mwanakambowe, who later sold the land to the duo in 2018 and 2019. It has been revealed that the duo asked Mr. Mwanakambowe to apply to the Council for sub-division and change of land use to enable them to use the land for commercial purposes. When the application came before the Council, the duo participated in the meeting to determine the application.

Both Mr. Bweenje and Mr. Choongo have been released on bond and will appear in Court on 10th May, 2024.

TIMOTHY MOONO

HEAD - CORPORATE COMMUNICATIONS