

**ZIMBABWE EZEKIEL GUTI UNIVERSITY**

**FACULTY OF LAW, BUSINESS INTELLIGENCE AND ECONOMICS**

Department of Law and Legal Services

LLB (Hons) Part v

Media and Communication Law LLB526

June, 2025 Examination (3 Hour Paper)

**INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES**

1. Section A is compulsory
  2. Answer any three questions from Section B
  3. Marks allocated for each question are shown in brackets.
  4. You may take into the examination room the following:-
    - 2.1. Constitution of Zimbabwe Amendment (No. 20) Act of 2013
    - 2.2. Zimbabwe Media Commission Act [Chapter 10:135]
    - 2.3. Cyber and Data Protection Act [Chapter 12:07]
- NB** The above must not be annotated in any way.
5. Use Blue or black ink only but not interchangeably.

## SECTION A

### Question 1

Nick Mangwana is an employee in the Ministry of Information and Publicity of Zimbabwe and doubles as the Deputy Spokesperson of the President of Zimbabwe. Both Nick and the President of Zimbabwe are members of the ruling ZANU Pf Party.

As the country gears towards its 2023 harmonised elections, political antagonism is rife and there is over growing competition for media coverage amongst political actors and parties.

On the other hand, Gift Ostalos Siziba, a member and Deputy Spokesperson of the newly formed Citizens Coalition for Change wrote to the national broadcaster, Zimbabwe Broadcasting Cooperation seeking coverage of his Party's events and programmes but the request is shot down by Nick Mangwana.

Irked by the cowardice of Nick Mangwana, Gift Ostalos Siziba approaches the British Council and the Obama Foundation for funding and guidance on how to counter Nick Mangwana and his Party's machinations. The trio agreed that Hopewell Chin'ono and likeminded 'independent scribes' will be funded to expose ZANU PF's shortcomings, looting and corruption.

In light of the laws governing Media in Zimbabwe and the Media's duties discuss the conduct of both Nick Mangwana and Gift Ostalos Siziba.

**[20 Marks]**

### Question 2

*"Zimbabwe has taken a bold step forward with the introduction of its new gold-backed currency, the Zimbabwe Gold"*, Minister Mtuli Ncube, **The Herald**, 29<sup>th</sup> April, 2024.

*"The Zig, our Zimbabwe Gold Currency is backed by gold but not tied to gold"*, Minister Mtuli Ncube, **Pindula News**, 3<sup>rd</sup> October, 2024

In light of the above statements by the Minister of Finance and Economic Development, to what extent should the people of Zimbabwe (natural and juristic (Financial Institutions) rely on the Executive arm of government and the Media in making investment decisions. **[10 Marks]**

## **SECTION B**

### **Question 3**

Discuss the import and justiciability of the right to access to information and Freedom of the media in light of the recent *Hearts and Soul Television* broadcast regarding corruption and State capture featuring Blessed "Bombshell Geza".

**[10 Marks]**

### **Question 4**

Discuss the independence of the Zimbabwe Media Commission in light of other Chapter 12 Independent Commissions supporting democracy in Zimbabwe.

**[10 Marks]**

### **Question 5**

Discuss the efficacy of the Zimbabwe Media Commission in relation to the Judicial Service Commission.

**[10 Marks]**

### **Question 6**

Regulation and accreditation of the Media and Media Practitioners in Zimbabwe is heavily controlled by the State as opposed to self-regulation as is the case with Medical and Legal Practitioners. Discuss the justiciability of State regulating the Media and Media Practitioners in Zimbabwe.

**[10 Marks]**

### **Question 7**

In early May, 2025 His Excellency the President of Zimbabwe went to the Republic of Belarus and thereat, he signed several Memoranda whose terms were not published. Pursuant to the visit, Parliament of Zimbabwe, which mainly consists of ZANU PF Party has in line with the Constitution of the Republic of Zimbabwe, set a motion to ratify the President's Memoranda with the Republic

of Belarus. In light of Section 62(1) of the Constitution of Zimbabwe, discuss the role and limitation of the Media in circumstances such as these.

**[10 Marks]**

**END OF QUESTION PAPER**

1/10