



QUOTES OF THE WEEK



Habil Olaka, president, Federation of Kenya Employers

"We are currently in a situation where businesses are not able to meet their operational costs and at the same time employees are not able to make ends meet."



Michael Warutere, 2023 KCPE top pupil

"I had to wake up early enough and tackle all subjects equally, do some exercise and relax before I began my day. You have to be consistent and determined, do not give up half way and expect good results."



Patricia Moraa, daughter of Margaret Chweya, who claims to be Nyachae's widow

"I wish to categorically state that I have never known any other father except George Gordon Odera... I have never met or spoken with the late honourable Simeon Nyachae, and I have never had any relationship with the deceased."



James Orengo, Governor, in response to Rigathi Gachagua

"I have heard the Deputy President... The truth is that the national government has not given a single cent to county governments. Even Nyeri has not witnessed a penny. So, those are lies."



Lionel Messi, Argentina captain on crowd trouble in Brazil

"...we saw how they were beating people. The police, as happened in the Libertadores final, were once again repressing the people with night sticks ...it could have ended in tragedy."

Best public officers, institutions honoured at Ombudsman Award

► County Commissioner from Kilifi was awarded for ensuring marginalised groups access to vital government services.

► Huduma Ombudsman Award is in its fourth year.

AUGUSTINE ODUOR, NAIROBI

Outstanding public officers and institutions were feted during the 4th edition of the Huduma Ombudsman Award ceremony at the Kenyatta International Convention Centre on Thursday.

During the event graced by Public Service Cabinet Secretary Moses Kuria, who represented President William Ruto, and Precious Dama Randu, Assistant County Commissioner Matsangoni, Kilifi County emerged as the winner in the Public Service Delivery Category; individual category.

The National Council for Law Reporting and the Kenya Revenue Authority emerged winners in the institutional category of the Public Service Delivery Category and Access to Information Category respectively.

Randu was awarded for distinction in efficiency, innovation, and servanthood in public service within the public administration sector.

She is credited for social inclusivity programmes she has initiated in the area that has ensured marginalised groups, including special needs



Precious Dama Randu, the Assistant County Commissioner Matsangoni Division, Kilifi North Sub-County, Kilifi County the winner of the Public Service Delivery award. [Samson Wire, Standard]

individuals and the elderly, access vital government services.

Notably, Randu's collaboration with various government agencies and private institutions facilitated mobile outreaches, enabling the registration of 830 special needs persons for birth certificates and enrolling 1,456 individuals for national identity cards.

It was noted that her efforts also addressed challenges faced by elderly citizens in accessing programmes like the Inua Jamii program, providing logistical support and medical assistance.

Recognising educational barriers, Randu spearheaded campaigns such as "Return to School for Pregnant

Girls and Young Mothers", significantly reducing school drop-out rates and re-enrolling young mothers in secondary education.

The National Council for Law Reporting was awarded for advancing the rights of citizens through the provision of timely, accurate, and free legal information.

Kenya Law has implemented policies enabling free access to public legal information, aligning with national and international calls for transparency and digitalization of government services.

The Ombudsman Valour Award went to Police Officer Julius Karanja Irungu attached to

Kotulo-Wajir, Special Operations Group (SOG) station.

Karanja was awarded for heroic services to the nation at great personal cost after he completely lost his sight as a result of the fragments from the improvised explosive device during a suspected Al-Shabaab attack.

According to Florence Kajuju, the chairperson of the Commission on Administrative Justice (Office of the Ombudsman), the Huduma Ombudsman Award is one of the approaches the Commission has adopted to enhance accountability and responsiveness in the public service. newsdesk@standardmedia.co.ke

INVESTIGATION

Police arrest more Wells Fargo staff in Sh94m heist probe

Four more staff of Wells Fargo have been arrested by police to assist in investigations into the theft of Sh94 million cash in Nairobi on November 6.

The four were picked up by detectives from the Nairobi area DCI at their offices in Nairobi after forensic investigations revealed communication with the two suspects who are still on the run.

The four include the company's controller, the head of driver's unit, fleet supervisor and the officer in charge of crew command.

DCI boss Mohammed Amin in a post on social media said the four suspects were negligent in their duties leading to the theft of the cash.

Another source familiar with the investigations told The Sunday Standard that investigators had noted constant communication between the missing men and the new suspects before and after the theft.

The arrests of the four brings to eight the number of suspects who are being held by police as the search for the missing cash and suspects continues.

A breakthrough in the investigations came 12 days ago when police arrested a taxi driver and recovered a car believed to have been used by two employees to escape with the money.

Police said the taxi driver and his accomplices were arrested after a raid at a home in Kamaki area in Ruiru, where police recovered the vehicle that was captured on CCTV cameras being driven from South C on the day of the heist.

When detectives arrived to his house at 3am, they found the car in the process of being repainted. Police later arrested a businessman in Roysambu from whom Sh9 million was found. **[Kamare Maina]**