

# ANNUAL REPORT 2025



JUDICIARY OF SEYCHELLES



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“THE ARC OF THE MORAL  
UNIVERSE IS LONG,  
BUT IT BENDS TOWARD JUSTICE”

THEODORE PARKER







## Foreword by the CHIEF JUSTICE

**Permit me, once again, to present to you the Annual Report of the Judiciary of Seychelles for the year 2025. The year 2025 marked a period of meaningful progress and transformation for the Judiciary of Seychelles as we have continued to strengthen the rule of law through innovation, capacity-building, and sustained engagement with our partners and stakeholders.**

One of our most significant achievements was the launch of the Judiciary's first e-Service Platform, an important milestone in our long-term digital transformation agenda. In its initial phase, this platform enables legal practitioners to submit written filings and pay for the service online, reducing the time previously spent navigating administrative

formalities and travelling to the courthouse. This achievement has been made possible through our partnership with Switch, a member of the VCS Group, whose technical expertise helped us align our services with modern expectations of accessibility and efficiency. We look forward to expanding this collaboration to introduce additional features that will further assist the public in navigating the justice system.

The Judiciary also experienced important developments within the Magistracy. Our Chief Magistrate was appointed Master of the Supreme Court, and the Senior Magistrate assumed the role of Chief Magistrate. We welcomed a new female Magistrate into our ranks—another will join us in early 2026. These appointments reflect our commitment to continuous professional evolution, ensuring that judicial officers remain challenged, intellectually stimulated, and well positioned to serve with excellence.

Our institution continued advancing its public relations and community engagement strategy. A major milestone was the establishment of the country's first Paralegal Certification Programme, developed in partnership with the University of Seychelles. We facilitated stakeholder visits to the courts, hosted our annual Constitution Day Symposium, and prioritized engagement with our most valuable resource - our own staff. In 2025, our Long Service Awards were held for the first time outside the courthouse, symbolizing our appreciation for the dedication of our team. Staff-led initiatives throughout the year also contributed to a positive and motivated work environment.

We further invested in capacity-building for judicial and administrative staff. The Commonwealth Secretariat provided specialised training to the Judges, Magistrates and Judicial Research Counsel, which training is aimed at strengthening our institutional readiness to address cyber-related offences, ensuring that our justice system remains resilient in an increasingly digital era. Members of the Judiciary's court support and administrative staff have been undertaking the Paralegal Studies Course, which was designed in collaboration with UniSey to provide basic legal knowledge to the staff, as well as providing a pathway to further career development. Members of the Judicial Research

Counsel team undertook specialised training on maritime crimes in Kenya through the generous support of the United Nations Office of Drugs & Crime (UNODC), to whom we extend our gratitude.

The Judiciary also contributed to national processes through its participation as an ad hoc committee member in the Universal Periodic Review and Voluntary National Review mechanisms, supporting Seychelles' international commitments. The Judiciary, in collaboration with the Ministry of Employment and Social Affairs and the National Commission for Child Protection (NCCP) drafted the long awaited Children Act (Amendment) Bill, 2025, which was passed into law by the National Assembly. The Act strengthens the Family Tribunal in its primary function of ensuring the protection of the rights of children in the country. Similarly, in its role as member of the NCCP, the Judiciary made its contributions to the Draft of the Final Country Report of the African Charter on the Rights and Welfare of the Child.

As we look toward 2026, our theme "Upholding the Rule of Law with Integrity" will guide our work. We remain committed to engaging with partners, raising awareness about the justice system, and applying the principles of integrity, transparency, and accountability in all areas of our mandate. In this regard, the Judiciary made extensive contributions, as a partner, to the Organisation for Economic Cooperation & Development's (OECD) Public Integrity Indicators on the Integrity of the Justice and Disciplinary Systems in Seychelles.

The Judiciary was actively represented regionally, with the participation of the team led by the Chief Justice in the 18th Session of the Bureau of the Conference of African Constitutional Jurisdictions in Cairo, Egypt, as well as the 4th International Legal Symposium hosted by the Council for Constitutional Inquiry of Ethiopia, in collaboration with Conference of Constitutional Jurisdictions of Africa (CJCA) in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. In April 2026, Seychelles will host the Southern & Eastern Africa Chief Justices' Forum (SEACJF) and the Southern & Eastern Africa Judicial Administrators Association (SEAJAA) Executive Committees-Meetings, an important moment that will further elevate Seychelles' presence on the regional judicial map.

Our continued membership in these regional and international bodies is an opportunity for meaningful collaboration and shared progress.

This Annual Report also coincides with the renewal of our Strategic Plan, which outlines our priorities for the next five years, 2026 - 2030. I am confident that with the dedication of our judicial officers and staff, the partnership of our national and international stakeholders, and the trust placed in us by the public, the Judiciary will continue making steady strides in achieving its long-term goals.

I express my sincere appreciation to all who have contributed to our achievements this year and remain hopeful for continued success in the years ahead.

**Chief Justice  
Judiciary of Seychelles**



## THE JUDICIARY OF SEYCHELLES

The Judiciary of Seychelles The Judiciary of Seychelles consists of the Court of Appeal, the Supreme Court and such other subordinate courts or tribunals established by an Act pursuant to Article 137 of the Constitution. The Chief Justice is the head of the Judiciary and oversees its overall administration. He is supported by the Registrar who oversees the statutory functions, courtroom processes and the day to day functions.



### MISSION of the Judiciary

*The Judiciary's mission is to effectively and competently administer justice in accordance with the Constitution and laws of Seychelles in a timely, impartial and independent manner.*



### VISION of the Judiciary

*The Judiciary's vision is to be a dynamic institution with contented staff working together to promote fewer litigious disputes and faster case resolution by offering high quality, fit for purpose solutions for court users.*



### CORE VALUES of the Judiciary

*The Judiciary is committed to working for excellence in every task we do, maintaining our independence as the third branch of the state and watchdog of the Constitution, and at all times acting with integrity, maintaining a high standard of ethics, treating all persons with respect and showing professionalism.*

### Strategic Plan for the Judiciary

The Judiciary has developed a Strategic Plan that will span four years, from 2021-2025. The Strategic Plan identifies a set of strategies that will enable it to better execute its constitutional role as the third arm of government. The previous Strategic Plan, Vision 2020, spanning 2017-2020, maintained eight strategic imperatives/pillars, and the current strategic plan continues to build on these in Vision 2021 – 2025. It will be reviewed annually for purposes of identifying any unachieved goals and updating the strategic objectives.

Vision 2021 – 2025 includes detailed work plans for each of the objectives and goals identified, and the achievement of these will be through combined and concerted effort and accountability by the various courts and departments. The Office of the Chief Justice rolled out the plan in the past year, and several committees are set up to oversee specific goals and mandates.

## COURTS' LOCATIONS

### Court of Appeal

Palais de Justice Ile Du Port, Mahé  
Tel: 422 - 4078

### Supreme Court

Palais de Justice Ile Du Port, Mahé  
Tel: 428-5800

### Magistrates' Court Victoria

Magistrates Court Building, Ile Du Port  
Tel: 422-4078

### Family Tribunal

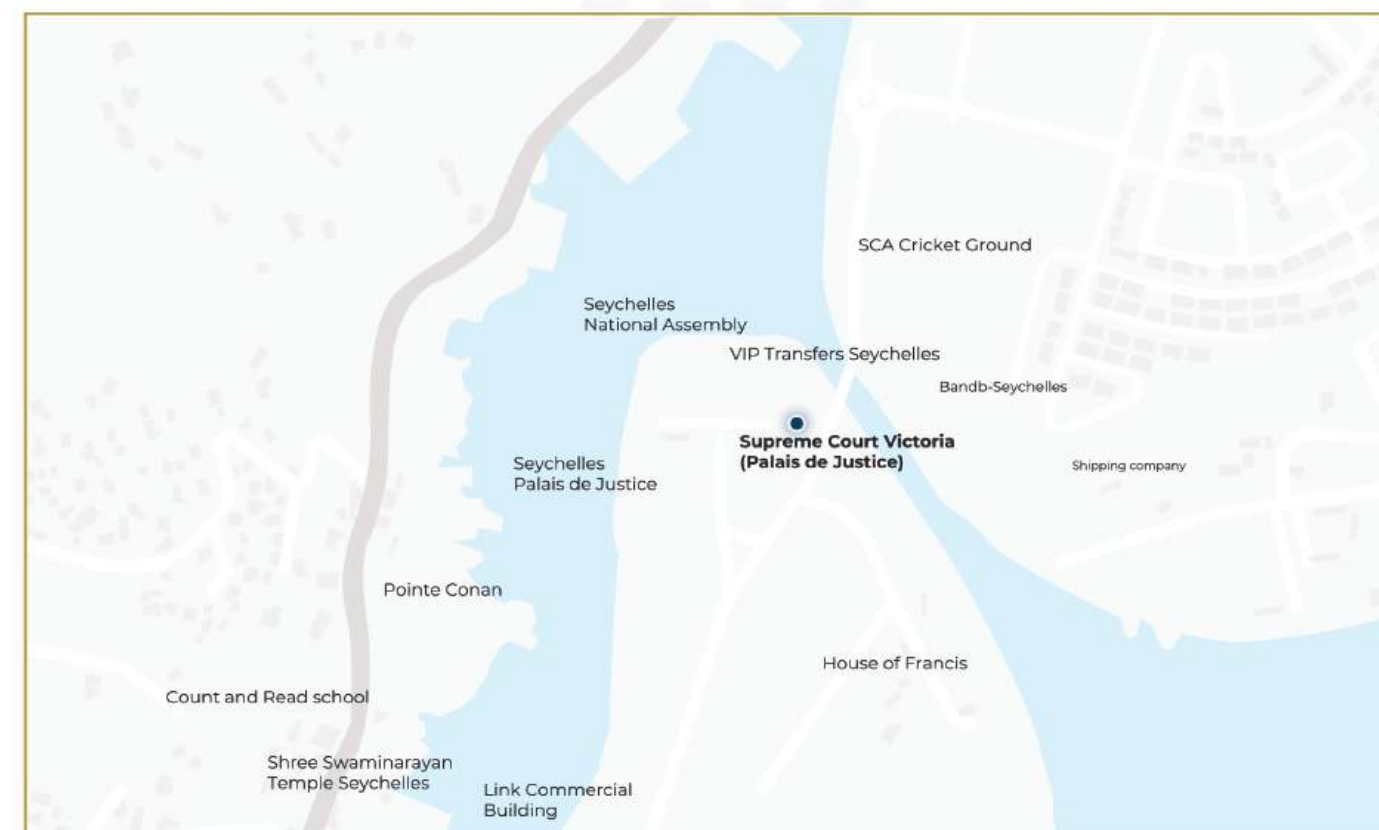
Magistrates Court Building, Ile Du Port  
Tel: 428-5875 / 428-5868

### Employment Tribunal

Magistrates Court Building, Ile Du Port  
Tel: 428-5826

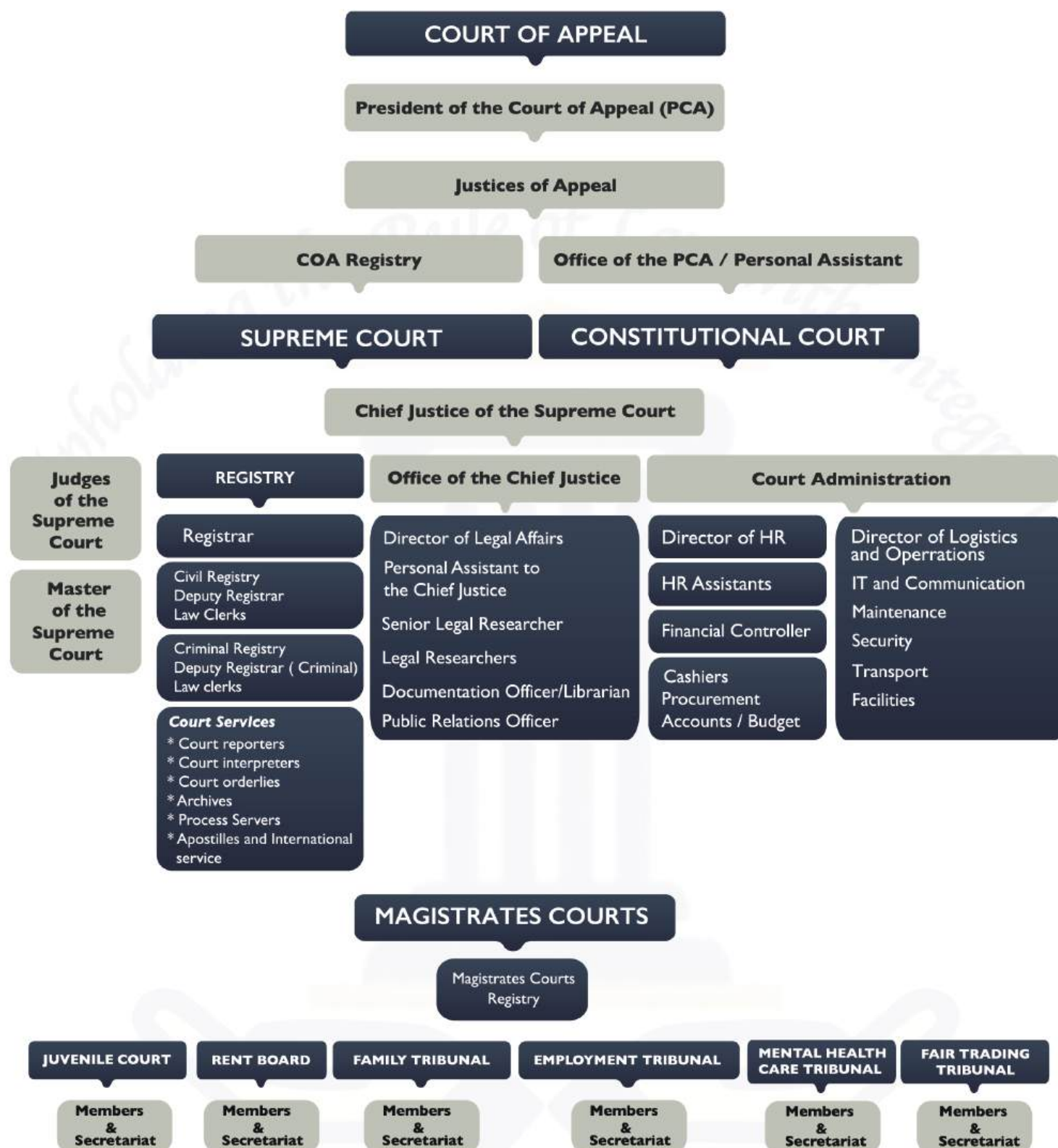
### Praslin Magistrates' Court

Pension Fund Building, Grand Anse, Praslin,  
Tel: 423-3857





## ORGANIZATIONAL CHART OF THE JUDICIARY



## JUSTICES OF THE COURT OF APPEAL



**Justice**  
A. Fernando  
President of the Court of Appeal



**Justice**  
Dr. Mathilda Twomey



**Justice**  
Fiona Robinson



**Justice**  
Dominic Luther Yeta Sichinga  
(Non-resident Justice of Appeal Appointed 2024)



**Justice**  
Nicola Ann Sharpe-Phree  
(Non-resident Justice of Appeal Appointed 2024)



**Justice**  
Samia Andre



Mrs Vivienne Vadivello  
**Deputy Registrar**  
Court of Appeal

### The Court of Appeal

The Court of Appeal of Seychelles, operating under the authority of the Constitution of the Republic of Seychelles, continues to serve as the highest appellate body of the nation. It hears appeals from the Supreme Court and the Constitutional Court, ensuring that the principles of justice, fairness, and due process are consistently upheld.

Over the past five years, the Court of Appeal has implemented a comprehensive strategy aimed at reducing the backlog of cases. As of 21st October 2025, this goal has been successfully achieved. All historical backlogs have been cleared, and only cases filed in 2025 remain pending. The Court of Appeal has disposed of 29 cases in relation to constitutional, criminal and civil matters and 12 civil and criminal miscellaneous applications since 1st January to 21st October 2025. These include all appeals filed from the end of the year 2024 and from the beginning of the year 2025 up to April 2025, leaving no backlog. This achievement underscores the Court's strong commitment to timely justice delivery and institutional efficiency.



A total of 14 appeals, all filed after the April 2025 session, have been scheduled for hearing during the December 2025 session.

The pending cases as of 21st October 2025 are as follows:

- Constitutional Appeals: 1 case
- Criminal Appeals: 10 cases
- Civil Appeals: 12 cases
- Miscellaneous Applications: 5 civil and 1 criminal

The Court continues to improve its institutional capacity through enhancements to its administrative systems and infrastructure. The implementation of the Court of Appeal Rules 2023, effective January 2024, has introduced clearer procedural guidelines and modernised case management practices. These measures have contributed to greater consistency, accessibility, and procedural transparency. In a judgment delivered at the conclusion of the August 2025 session, the Court of Appeal laid down guidelines to be followed when an application for a recusal of a Justice of Appeal is made.

Looking ahead, the Court of Appeal will continue to uphold its mission of ensuring justice through efficiency and accountability. The Court intends to further strengthen its administrative capacity, invest in technological solutions to support digital filing and hearings, and pursue continuous training and development for judicial officers and staff to maintain high standards of judicial performance.

#### Resident Justices

1. Justice Anthony Fernando – President
2. Justices Fiona Robinson
3. Justice Samia Andre

#### Non-resident Justices

4. Justice Mathilda Twomey-Woods
5. Justice Karuna Gunesh Balaghee
6. Justice Janake De Silva
7. Justice Nicola Sharpe-Phiri
8. Justice Dominic Sichinga



### JUDGES OF THE SUPREME COURT



**Chief Justice**  
R. Govinden



**Judge**  
Mohan Burhan



**Judge**  
G. Dodin



**Judge**  
Melchior Vidot



**Judge**  
Laura Pillay



**Judge**  
Ellen Carolus



**Judge**  
Brassel Adeline



**Judge**  
David Esparon



**Judge**  
Alexandra Madeleine



**Judge**  
Natasha Burian



**Master**  
Andy Asba

#### Deputy Registrar:

Ms. Marie-Ange Barbe  
(Criminal Division)

#### Senior Assistant Registrar:

Mrs. Sumitha Valmont  
(Civil Division)



**Registrar of the Supreme Court**  
Mrs Juliana Esticot



## The Supreme Court

The Supreme Court is comprised of the Chief Justice, seven Judges and a Master, who are appointed by the President to exercise judicial functions on the recommendation of the Constitutional Appointments Authority. The Supreme Court has original jurisdiction under the Constitution to hear and determine civil and criminal matters. It has supervisory jurisdiction over other courts and Tribunals, as well as original and appellate jurisdiction as granted to it by any Act. Judges of the Supreme Court may be co-opted to the Court of Appeal at the request of the President of the Court of Appeal to sit on specific cases where the Court of Appeal requires it. Chief Justice Rony James Govinden sits as both a Judge of the Supreme Court and a Justice of Appeal. The Supreme Court sits daily during three terms or sessions in the year which are held from 10th January through 10th April, 10th May through 31st July, and 1st September through 10th December as determined by the Supreme Court (Terms) Rule, 2016. Individual Judges may sit as duty Judges during the court vacation periods to hear and determine matters which require urgent sittings. All other court functions continue during the court vacations. The Supreme Court complex is known as the Palais de Justice, which also houses the Court of Appeal, Constitutional Court and the Juvenile Court.

## Constitutional Court

The Constitution also empowers the Supreme Court to sit as the Constitutional Court. The Constitutional Court is constituted when two or more Judges who sit together to determine cases which concern the application, contravention, enforcement or interpretation of the Constitution. Constitutional Court cases are usually heard on Tuesdays during the Supreme Court session. The Judges on the Constitutional Court may, however, schedule hearings of a matter on any day of the week.



## THE MAGISTRATES



**Chief Magistrate**  
Brigitte Confait



**Senior Magistrate**  
Vipin Benjamin



**Magistrate**  
James Camille



**Magistrate**  
Ananth Subramanian



**Magistrate**  
Larah Michaud



**Magistrate**  
Emily Gonthier



**Magistrate**  
Kelly Louise



**Magistrate**  
Nisha Alleear

**Assistant Registrars:** Mrs. Edwige Cadeau, Ms. Karen Quatre, Mrs. Lathimy Emerite, Mr. Achille Libanotis

## The Magistrates' Court

The performance of the Magistrates' Court for the year 2025 has remained consistent, reflecting continued stability and efficiency in the delivery of justice across all the Courts. The Victoria, Praslin, and Anse Royale Magistrates' Courts have performed at almost the same level as the previous year, notwithstanding the movement of several judicial officers which temporarily affected service delivery during the year.

A significant highlight for the year was the promotion of the former Chief Magistrate to the post of Master of the Supreme Court in July 2025. This milestone ushered in a period of transition within the Magistracy, leading to the appointment of Senior Magistrate Brigitte Confait as the new Chief Magistrate and Ms. Nisha Alleear as Magistrate. These appointments have reinforced judicial capacity and ensured continuity in the administration of justice at the Magistrates' Courts.

In August 2025, the Anse Royale Magistrates' Court was relocated from its previous premises due to the deteriorating condition of the building. The Court now operates temporarily from the CDS Building at Anse Royale while awaiting the construction of a new government building that will permanently accommodate the Court. The planned facility is expected to allow for an expansion of judicial services in the southern region of Mahé.

Further, the Judiciary has embarked on the renovation of the La Digue Magistrates' Court, a project which has now been placed on tender. Construction works are expected to commence in early 2026, thereby ensuring improved access to justice for the residents of La Digue and strengthening the overall judicial presence in the outer islands.

Looking ahead, with the assumption of office of the new Chief Magistrate, it is anticipated that the Magistrates' Court will sustain its strong performance in 2026. Building upon the reforms initiated by her predecessor, the new Chief Magistrate and her team are expected to introduce further innovations aimed at enhancing the efficiency, accessibility, and quality of justice within the Magistrates' Courts.



## THE TRIBUNALS

### The Juvenile Court

The Juvenile Court is established under the Children Act of Seychelles (as amended). The Juvenile Court has jurisdiction over offences committed by juveniles and young persons. The Juvenile Court sits at the Supreme Court. Juvenile Court cases are heard before the Chief Justice, who is the chairperson of the Court, and Judge Laura Pillay, who is the vice-chairperson, and four other members. Sittings take place twice a month.

### Members of the Juvenile Court

Judge R. Govinden – Presiding Judge

Judge L. Pillay - Presiding Judge

Mr. Ogilvy Delcy

Mrs. Rosemary Elizabeth

Mrs. Josette Thelemont

Mr. Benjamin Zab

### The Rent Board

The performance of the Rent Board for the year 2025 has remained commendable, reflecting the Board's continued commitment to the timely and efficient resolution of tenancy disputes. The Board has maintained a strong case disposal rate, with the majority of cases being concluded within six months of filing. This efficiency has ensured that there are no backlogged matters before the Board, underscoring its effectiveness in upholding the principles of access to justice and expeditious determination of cases.

Throughout the year, the Board continued to discharge its mandate with diligence and impartiality, addressing matters ranging from recovery of rent, ejectment, and applications for determination of fair rent and related issues. Its performance has contributed significantly to maintaining stability in the rental sector and promoting harmony between landlords and tenants.

The term of the current Board is set to expire in January 2026, after which a new Board is expected to be appointed.

### Members of the Rent Board

Chief Magistrate Andy Asba **Chairperson**

Mr. Serge Pompee

Mr. Neddy Carobert

Mr. Romano Songor

Ms. Clothilde Malcouzanne

Ms. Gyra Nibourette

### The Employment Tribunal

The Employment Tribunal (hereinafter referred to as "the Tribunal") continues to play an essential role in the just and timely resolution of disputes arising between employers and employees. Over the years, there has been a consistent increase in the number of cases filed before the Tribunal, while the number of available sitting days has remained constant. This disparity has inevitably placed considerable strain on the Tribunal's schedule and resources.

The challenge is particularly pronounced in matters involving foreign workers, which frequently require urgent attention given the direct implications on their basic needs such as food, accommodation, and general welfare, as well as their immigration status. Notwithstanding these pressures, the Tribunal committed to uphold the principles of fairness, impartiality, and efficiency in the administration of justice.

### Progress and Achievements

**Case Management:** Despite a consistently heavy caseload, the Employment Tribunal has continued to effectively manage, hear, and determine a substantial number of disputes. The Tribunal has demonstrated diligence in prioritizing urgent matters, notably those concerning foreign workers, whose cases often carry serious implications affecting their food, shelter, welfare, immigration status, etc.

**Accessibility:** The Tribunal remains an accessible and affordable forum for both employers and employees. It provides an alternative mechanism for the resolution of employment disputes outside the more formal and technical procedures of the Supreme/Magistrate Court, thereby ensuring that justice remains within reach of all categories of workers and employers.

**Consistency of Decisions:** The Tribunal's judgments continue to serve as valuable precedents and guidance for employers, employees, and practitioners. Through the consistency of its decisions, the Tribunal has contributed significantly to shaping workplace standards, promoting compliance with employment laws, and fostering industrial harmony within the jurisdiction.

### Members of the Employment Tribunal

Senior Magistrate Vipin Benjamin **Chairperson**

Magistrate Kelly Louise **Vice-chairperson**

Ms. Nisha Alleear **Vice-chairperson**

Mr. Roch Henritte

Mr. Nigel Payet

Mr. Egbert Rosalie

Ms. Wendy Didon

Mr. George Hoareau **Secretary**  
Mr. Versange Atala

Mr. Alex Rath

**Challenges: Increasing Caseload:** The steady increase in the number of cases brought before the Tribunal has not been supplemented by a corresponding increase in the number of sitting days. This imbalance exerts pressure on the Tribunal's diary and inevitably leads to delays in the hearing and disposal of cases, thereby affecting the overall efficiency of the system.

**Enforcement of Awards:** The enforcement of Tribunal awards remains a pressing challenge. Process servers frequently encounter obstacles in executing judgments, often reporting that judgment debtors possess no attachable assets. Even where assets are identified, their value is often insufficient to satisfy the award. Consequently, many cases are returned to the Tribunal for further directions, prolonging the final resolution and undermining the effectiveness of the judicial process.

**Strengthening Enforcement Mechanisms:** There is a need to strengthen the enforcement of Tribunal awards through closer collaboration with enforcement officers and the introduction of procedural reforms. The enactment of specific rules under the Employment Act to streamline execution proceedings would enhance the realization of awards and improve overall compliance with judicial decisions.



## The Family Tribunal

The Family Tribunal has in the year 2025 demonstrated strong and consistent performance with a stable case disposal rate, despite an increase in the number of registered cases and a continued low rate of mediation. Bearing the highest number of case registration and completion rate amongst the tribunals within the Judiciary, such performance reflects the Family Tribunal's resilience and commitment to efficiently deliver justice in family related and domestic violence matters.

In 2025, the Tribunal experienced several staffing change. Magistrate Kelly Louise was appointed as a new Vice-chairperson, replacing Vice-chairperson Larah Michaud during her temporary leave. The Tribunal also recorded the retirement and departure of the Assistant Registrar for Praslin, Mr. Achille Libanotis in March 2025, followed by the appointment of his successor Ms. Stephanie Lewis, and also the appointment of Ms. Sharon Andimignon as Assistant Registrar. Additionally, the Tribunal noted the departure of Senior clerk Ms. Wendy Mousbe in September 2025. At the board level, members Bishop Danny Elizabeth and Pastor Robert Moumou concluded their service, while Mr. Antoine Dupres and Mr. Julie were appointed as new members in August 2025.

The Tribunal's ability to maintain consistency in its operation and sustain performance amidst administrative and personnel changes underscores its institutional stability and dedication to service continuity.

A major achievement during the year was the amendment to the Children Amendment Act (Act 16 of 2025) which strengthened the Tribunal's enforcement powers and expanded the composition of its board, increasing the number of Vice-chairperson up to three and number of board members to eleven. The reform also emphasized on the promotion of mediation throughout the proceedings of the Tribunal to encourage amicable resolution of family disputes. These legislative improvements directly address challenges as the increasing case loads and enforcement delays, marking a significant step towards faster, more effective service delivery and enhanced protection of the children's rights.

The term of the current Board is set to expire in August 2027, after which a new Board is expected to be appointed.

### Members of the Family Tribunal

#### Permanent Members

Senior Magistrate Brigitte Confait	<b>Chairperson</b>
Magistrate Larah Michaud	<b>Vice Chairperson</b>
Mrs. Lena Cedras	
Mrs Tessy Chang Pen Tive.	
Mr. Steve Pointe	

#### Part Time Members

Mrs. Sylvette Evenor	<b>Secretary</b>
Mr. Robert Moumou	Ms. Gena Labrosse
Rev. Danny Elizabeth	<b>Assistant Registrars</b>
Mrs. Elizabeth Gay	Juanita Rouillon
Mr. Antoine Denousse	Archil Libanotis



Praslin Court

## The Mental Health Care Tribunal

The Mental Health Care Tribunal is established in accordance with the Mental Health Care Act, 2020 (Act 26 of 2020). The Tribunal has the exclusive jurisdiction to hear and determine any matter pertaining to the mental health of any person, including appeals by persons with mental illness against a facilitated admission, an appeal on renewal or extension of facilitated admission and complaints regarding violation of rights of persons with mental illness amongst others.

The Tribunal is chaired by Magistrate Ananth Subramaniam, assisted by a vice-chairperson and five other members.

## The Fair Trading Tribunal

In the year 2025 the Fair Trading Tribunal has seen a slight decrease in the number of cases filed as compared to the preceding year. The case disposal rate of the Fair Trading Tribunal has remained consistent throughout. There has been a decrease in the number of appeals filed and it is noted that thus far, the appeals which have come before the Tribunal are those that had been filed prior to the entry into force of the Fair Trading Act, 2022 and which were transferred to the Tribunal. There have not yet been any appeals filed since the Fair Trading Act, 2022 has come into force.

In 2025, a secretary to the Fair Trading Tribunal was appointed, namely Assistant Registrar, Mrs. Edwige Cadeau. Up until then, the Fair Trading Tribunal had been operating with only a law clerk as its secretariat staff.

The Tribunal sits twice a week with a panel of three. There is currently no provision in the Fair Trading Act, 2002 for a vice chairperson to the Tribunal, as is the case for other tribunals. There is therefore a need for an amendment in the law to make such provision, which would facilitate the work of the Tribunal and potentially allow for more sittings. The term of the current Board is set to expire in September 2027, after which a new Board is expected to be appointed.

## Members of the Mental Health Care Tribunal

Magistrate Ananth Subramaniam	<b>Chairperson</b>
(Vice-chairperson to be appointed)	
Mr. Joshua Revera	
Dr. Daniella Malulu	
Ms. Elsia Sinon	
Mrs. Noela Gonthier	
Mrs. Betty-May Bibi	<b>Secretary</b>

## Members of the Fair Trading Tribunal

Magistrate Emily Gonthier	<b>Chairperson</b>
Ms. Liz Julienne	
Mr. Andre Low Nam	
Mr. Philip Morin	
Mr. Victor Pool	
Mr. Kenny Larue	
Ms. Cosette Moustache	



## OFFICE OF THE CHIEF JUSTICE



**Director of Legal Affairs & Judicial Research Counsels,  
Personal Assistant to the Chief Justice & Public Relations Officer**

In the year, from November 2024 – December 2025 covered by this Annual Report, the Judiciary has maintained and consolidated on the progress it achieved in the previous year through innovations promoted by the Chief Justice in judicial administration and technology.

As is customary for the Judiciary, the re-opening of the Supreme Court on January 10, 2025, marked the commencement of the new legal year. Soon after, the Chief Justice, having been elected to the Executive Bureau of the Conference of Constitutional Jurisdictions of Africa (CJCA) at their 7th Congress held at Victoria Falls, Zimbabwe, in November, 2024, attended the Meeting of the CJCA Executive Bureau in Cairo, Egypt. The Chief Justice also attended the 4th International Legal Symposium hosted by the Council of Constitutional Inquiry of Ethiopia in collaboration with the CJCA.

In March, 2025, the Judiciary recorded the milestone of launching of the Commercial Court which will be the main venue for commercial litigation in Seychelles. The Commercial Court is a specialized court that has jurisdiction to determine suits and applications relating to commercial disputes, provides an accessible and streamlined legal process for individuals and businesses to resolve their disputes quickly and in a relatively cost-efficient manner. These may be settled through court proceedings or alternative dispute resolution (ADR).

The Chief Justice also ensured that the continuing professional education and development of the Judicial Officers was not ignored. On March 10 – 11, 2025, the Office of the Chief Justice, under the auspices of the Judicial College of Seychelles (JUCOS) and in collaboration with the Commonwealth Secretariat, held a symposium on Cybercrime and Electronic Evidence in Seychelles. This symposium equipped the Judicial Officers and Judicial Research Counsel with the knowledge and tools to analyze and adjudicate over cybercrimes in their various forms. The Chief Justice ensured that the Judicial Officers attended various other trainings outside Seychelles, which are listed in the International and Legal Training & Events section of this Report.

In June, the Chief Justice hosted the annual Constitution Day Symposium. This time around, the Symposium focused inwards, with the theme: "The Independence of the Judiciary as the Cornerstone of the Democratic System of Governance". The participants were the Justices of Appeal, Judges of the Supreme Court, Magistrates, and Judicial Research Counsel only, and consolidated findings into formal recommendations addressing:

- Strengthening constitutional protections for judicial independence;
- Enhancing financial autonomy through legislative reforms.

- Improving appointment procedures to ensure merit-based selections free from political influence.
- Bolstering operational frameworks to safeguard against external pressures.
- Revising conditions of service to align with international best practices while maintaining accountability mechanisms.

Regarding judicial administration, the year saw the following judicial appointments –

- Former Master Natasha Burian as Judge of the Commercial Court;
- Former Chief Magistrate Andy Asba as Master of the Supreme Court;
- Former Senior Magistrate Brigitte Confait as Chief Magistrate; and
- Counsel Karen Dick as Magistrate.

With regard to the ongoing updating of the Judiciary's information technology capabilities, the year 2025 witnessed the launch of the Judiciary's a platform developed on the Judiciary's e-Service website which allows lawyers to file their written submissions online. The platform also allows for payment to be done simultaneously, which eliminates the need for their physical presence in court, as well as relieving pressure on the Judiciary's cashiers.

Prior to the launch, the Chief Justice had enacted the Electronic Filing of Written Submissions (Civil Matters) Regulations, 2025, and Electronic Filing of Written Submissions (Criminal Matters) Regulations, 2025. The Magistrates Court Rules were also amended to allow for the electronic filing of submissions in civil matters in the Magistrates Court.

The year 2025 ended on a high for the Judiciary with the presentation of an award to the Chief Justice by the Southern & Eastern Africa Chief Justices' Forum (SEACJF). The award is in recognition of Chief Justices of the Southern and Eastern Africa who have made singular and outstanding contributions to sustaining the rule of law within the region, as well as raising the profile of SEACJF and the CJCA on the continent. Also, Justice Samia Andre of the Seychelles Court of Appeal was elected as Judge of the First Instance Division of the COMESA Court of Justice. The Court plays a crucial role in interpreting and upholding the laws governing the Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA). Additionally, the International Commission for Dispute Resolution ONLINE (ICDRO) announced the appointment of Justice Andre as Deputy President (Hon.). Justice Andre will be supporting the ICDRO mission to advance alternate dispute resolution policies in states and corporations, as well as broader activities.

In December, 2025, the Attic Project (Phase 3), which involves the expansion of the Archives of the Judiciary's Andre Sauzier Library, was completed and handed over to the Judiciary. This project comprises the Archives space, as well as a state-of-the-art conference room and offices for the Library and Archives staff.

The Office of the Chief Justice is comprised of the Chief Justice's Secretariat, Judicial Research Counsel Office, Public Relations Office and the Andre Sauzier Library & Archives. The Office is supervised by the Director of Legal Affairs, Mr. Lionel Garrick.

### The Judicial Research Counsel Office

The Judicial Research Counsels (JRC) Office is a department in the Office of the Chief Justice (OCJ). The current JRC team includes Ms. Olya Hetsman, Mr. Markhous Kante, Ms. Danielle Coetzer, Dr. Simon Mutungi, Mrs. Fabianna Savy, Ms. Naomi Evenor, and Ms. Fiona Nyehita. Dr. Simon Mutungi continues to serve as Judicial Research Counsel assigned to the Court of Appeal. The Office of the Chief Justice is supervised by the Director of Legal Affairs, Mr. Lionel Garrick.

The JRCs continue to play an important role within the Judiciary, providing vital support through comprehensive legal and case law research. This work assists the Justices of the Court of Appeal and the Judges of the Supreme Court in preparation of their judgments. The team is also responsible for compiling and uploading judgments to the Seychelles Legal Information Institute (SEYLII) platform, as well as preparing summaries of daily court rulings for dissemination by the Public Relations Office (PRO) to the media and public.



Throughout 2025, the Director of Legal Affairs and JRC team participated in several regional and international training programs aimed at expanding their legal knowledge, research capabilities, and professional development. These included:

In 2024, the JRC team participated in several key training programs to further enhance their legal expertise:

- Southern and Eastern Africa Chief Justice's Forum, Gaborone Botswana – Director of Legal Affairs
- Southern and Eastern Africa Judicial Administrators Association AGM, Gaborone, Botswana – Director of Legal Affairs
- Managing People, The Guy Morel Institute – Senior Judicial Research Counsel
- Policy Development & Effective Policy Implementation & Monitoring, The Guy Morel Institute – Director of Legal Affairs and Senior Judicial Research Counsel
- United Nations Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights Training on Human Rights Mechanism, Department of Foreign Affairs – JRC
- Annual Symposium on Judicial Independence – JRC
- Consultation Workshop for the 2025 Voluntary National Review (VNR) of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) with Ministry of Finance – JRC
- Commonwealth Symposium on Cybercrime and Electronic Evidence – JRC
- US Embassy Workshop on Cyber Security and Public Trust - Law Enforcement's Role in Defending Democratic Spaces – JRC
- UNODC's Judicial Colloquium on Maritime Crimes, Mombasa, Kenya – Director of Legal Affairs and JRC

The JRC department remains dedicated to maintaining the highest standards of legal research and continues to make significant contributions to the Judiciary of Seychelles.

## The Public Relations Office

While focus in the last five years was on repositioning the Judiciary's public image, now the focus is on elevating it further and reinforcing existing relationships through a range of initiatives and community-focused programmes. The long term goal of this office remains better judicial awareness within the public, accessibility and visibility of the institution, and leading the way in the legal sphere both nationally and in the region. In addition to the initiatives accomplished under the Events section found further in the Annual Report, the Public Relations Office has focused on these areas of work:

### a) Modernisation of Communication Platforms

- Website maintenance: Continuous uploads of relevant information for the public, including the list of cases scheduled each week to ensure transparency and availability of information.
- Social Media Presence: Active engagement through Facebook, Twitter, and LinkedIn has allowed the Judiciary to reach diverse audiences, from the general public to legal professionals and international stakeholders.
- LinkedIn Integration: By creating verified profiles for judges for the first time this year, the Judiciary enhanced transparency and legitimacy regarding judicial backgrounds and professional credentials.

### d) Facilitating Media Access and Training

- Media-Friendly Reforms: Removal of administrative barriers to allow media entry into court buildings, improving real-time reporting of judicial proceedings.
- Online Cause Lists: Publication of daily cause lists has democratised access to court information, enabling greater transparency in judicial operations.
- Journalism Training: Annual training sessions for journalists during World Press Freedom Day have enhanced responsible and accurate legal reporting.

### e) Expanded Professional Outreach

- Twitter Account Launch: Targeted engagement with professional and international audiences, positioning the Seychelles Judiciary as part of global legal discourse.
- Stakeholder Collaboration: The Judiciary's visibility has strengthened relationships with embassies, government agencies, international organisations, and the National Assembly, creating a collaborative environment for legal development.





## The Andre Sauzier Law Library and Archives



**Documentation Officer/Librarian & Assistants**

The Judiciary's Library and Archive plays a significant role in providing Legal research and services in Seychelles. The Library houses collections of statutory instruments and Judgements of Supreme Court and Court of Appeal, current Law reports of Seychelles (Acts), Books on legal subjects and journals from different common wealth countries such as Kenya, Mauritius and Tanzania. We also have a French collection of the Encyclopedia, i.e. Dalloz and Classeur. The Library is under the Chief Justice and Archive Registrar's office. It is crucial that Andre Sauzier Library and Archives maintains a relevant and current collection of legal information to support the bench including magistrates, practicing lawyers and the staff. We ensure our community has access to our permissible databases and other electronic resources.

More than 1000 closed court files/judgements/decisions/orders are housed in the archive and historical legal books old but unique. Registries transfer closed court files to the archives for classification, indexing, and filled in box files for shelving. The Judiciary management has preserved the status of the archive with standards relating to management and resourcing collections care and well organized. Whoever visits the Judiciary archives accredits its standards. However; it is also important to note that the archives in which these judgements are housed have their own challenges, for example piled up paper files, and the urgent need for digitization of its priceless documents. There is need for diversity as we still use the traditional preservation of records which has challenges as the records are exposed to physical, and biological damages. In this course of the year the Library and archive hosted Common Wealth Secretariat. A group of students from Belonie School visited the Library in April and were very impressed.

### Ongoing and accomplished initiatives

- Attic phase partitioning project to create more space to cope with expanding archive is in ongoing to be handed over to the Judiciary by the contractors before end of the year.
- Lack of funds to digitizing backlog case court files in the archive. There was an initiative taken by the Judiciary in digitizing and scanning judgements of Supreme court and Court of Appeal from 1984-2022. Measures are in place scanning of incoming court files in the Registries before transferred to the archives.
- Library staff have under gone career training courses.
- Online Research platforms that involve embracing digital resources like e- books.
- 309 physical Law books were purchased for the Library.
- Old court files were sorted for destruction in accordance with the Judiciary Records Retention and disposal schedule.

## THE REGISTRAR'S OFFICE

The Registrar of the Supreme Court oversees the administrative functions of the Judiciary. The Registrar is also the Accounting Officer of the Judiciary. The Registrar is responsible to the Chief Justice for the smooth running of the Judiciary, ensuring that all the departments of the Judiciary are equipped with the necessary human and technical resources to provide high level service delivery at all times.

The Registrar also organizes the judicial functions of the Judiciary through the Registry, which is comprised of the Registrar's Office, Court of Appeal Registry, Criminal Registry, Civil Registry and Magistrates Court Registry. Under the Registrar's supervision, the Registry is manned by a Deputy Registrar in charge of the Criminal Registry, Senior Assistant Registrar in charge of the Civil Registry, Assistant Registrars, Senior Law Clerks and Law Clerks. These handle the filing of all court matters, the preparation of cause lists, as well as ensuring the smooth functioning of the Court of Appeal, Constitutional Court, Supreme Court, Magistrates Courts and the tribunals.

During the past year, the Registrar, in her oversight function of the legal practitioners, facilitated the oath-taking before the Chief Justice, of 4 law pupils being admitted to the Bar as Attorneys-at-Law.

The governance mechanisms geared towards ensuring that legal practitioners observe their professional Code of Conduct continues to be improved upon by the Registrar. Its effectiveness is evidenced by fewer complaints against legal practitioners being recorded in the past year, with necessary disciplinary action taken by the Judicial Committee on Legal Practitioners against those found in violation of their professional conduct.

As in every year, the Registrar supervised the Bar Vocational Course between April – August, for law graduates who wished to sit the Bar Examination for admission to practice as attorneys-at-law in Seychelles. The Bar Examination will also be held from November 18 – November 29, 2025, having 5 candidates sitting for the examinations.

Other activities undertaken by the Registrar are the destruction of court exhibits comprising hard drugs of about 1.4 tons, seized by the law enforcement agencies from suspects being tried for drug and related offences, as well as the oath-taking of the new Master; Mr. Andy Asba, a new Chief Magistrate; Mrs. Brigitte Confait and a new Magistrate; Ms. Nisha Alleear. The Judiciary saw the introduction of a new branch in the Supreme Court; which is the Commercial Court designated in April 2025 with a presiding Judge; Mrs. Natasha Burian sworn in to take commercial matters as of 8th April 2025.



**Registrar & Assistants**



**Financial Controller & Accounts Assistants**



## SEAJAA

### Objectives of SEAJAA:

- To exchange best practices and foster co-operation among members on matters of concern
- To promote the rule of law, democracy and the independence of the Judiciary and administration
- To assist in strengthening institutions tasked with Judiciary administration in member countries
- To arrange platforms including workshops and seminars on the maintenance of the rule of law, constitutionalism, good governance, protection of human rights and Judiciary administration
- To co-operate with other bodies which have objectives similar to the Association
- To promote the interest of judiciaries in member countries

### Some recent developments in SEAJAA

- A comprehensive review of SEAJAA's constitution was conducted in order to align it with contemporary practices and the Association's needs
- Engagement with prospective SEAJAA members such as Kenya and South Africa, and hopes to reach more prospective members with the assistance of the SEAJAA patron.
- A website has been developed and launched
- Recently became a member of International Association for Court Administrators (IACA)
- In the process of establishing a SEAJAA magazine to enhance the visibility and provide coverage of SEAJAA's initiatives and achievements.

### Admission of Attorneys-at-Law

As in every year, between April – August, 2024, the Registrar supervised the Bar-Vocational Course for law graduates who wish to sit the Bar Examination for admission to practice as attorneys-at-law in Seychelles. The Bar Examination also held from November 18 – November 29, 2024, having 9 candidates sitting for the examinations.

In 2025 the following were sworn in by the Chief Justice as Attorneys-at-Law, Notaries Public and Public Prosecutor:

ATTORNEYS-AT-LAW	DATE ADMITTED
Alexander Adam Afif	15/05/2025
Hashini Gurusinghe Naidu	15/05/2025
Christine Ruby Kate Simeon	21/05/2025
Hazel Angelique Naiken	8/07/2025
Karin Frances Laboudallon	18/09/2025
Nadine Sonia Camilla Alleear	11/11/2025
Corine Fay Jean-louis – Public Prosecutor	15/05/2025

NOTARY	DATE ADMITTED
Tanya Thyroomoody	28/10/2025
Alvine Marie	25/11/2025

## Accounts Section

The Accounts Section, led by the Financial Controller and supported by a capable team of 10 staff members, plays a vital role in managing the Judiciary's financial affairs. This section is responsible for overseeing all financial transactions and maintaining accurate accounting records. Its key functions include managing and supervising accounting operations, processing expenditure claims and disbursements, and ensuring that all payments are authorized and compliant with established procedures. Furthermore, the section handles the collection of fines, fees, and deposits, as well as processing refunds when necessary, thereby ensuring effective financial control and accountability. A key responsibility of the Accounts Section is the preparation of the Judiciary's annual budget. For the fiscal year 2025, the National Assembly approved a budget of **SCR 111,834 million**, reflecting an increase of **SCR 14,171 million** compared to the 2024 budget. This increase includes SCR 4,121 million designated for major development projects, such as the extensive renovation of the Judiciary's main building, Palais De Justice, the refurbishment of the La Digue Magistrate Court, and the installation of security fencing and sliding gates at the front of Palais De Justice. Additionally, a sum of SCR 3,114.62 million has been allocated for the establishment of a Commercial Court within the Judiciary of Seychelles.

**Table: Consolidated expenditure estimates (SR'000)**

Description	Original Budget 2025	Revised Budget 2025
Compensation to Employees	50,682.73	50,682.73
Goods and services *including Minor Capital Outlays and wages in Kind	57,029.43	58,753.43
Non-Financial Asset	4,121.86	4,541.86
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>111,834.02</b>	<b>113,978.02</b>

Following the mid-year budget review, the Accounts Section successfully appealed for additional funding to address unforeseen expenditures. These included a shortfall in the vehicle acquisition budget for purchasing a new staff bus, urgent maintenance work on the Low Voltage Panel (LVP) Board at Palais De Justice, and office rent costs arising from the unplanned temporary relocation of the Anse Royale Magistrate Court. This relocation, necessitated by circumstances beyond initial planning, required rental funding from August to December 2025, which was not included in the original budget. The Main Cashiering Unit within the Accounts Section is tasked with revenue collection. Revenues primarily come from court fees and fines, alongside income from legal practitioners' license renewals, rental fees from the Judiciary canteen, and sales of the law review publication. The total revenue forecast for 2025 was set at SCR 19.3 million. As of October 25, the Judiciary has surpassed this target by SCR 209,810—a noteworthy accomplishment demonstrating strong financial performance. This positive variance is largely attributed to a significant increase in case filings and the successful resolution of backlog cases, which have driven higher collections of filing fees and fines. In response to this encouraging trend, the Accounts Section has undertaken a review and adjustment of the revenue forecast for the remainder of 2025 to better reflect these improved outcomes.

**Table – Non Tax Revenue Judiciary**

Description	Approved Budget 2025	Revised 2025
Attorney Licence Fees	195.00	195.00
Sale of Law Review	20.70	27.67
Rental of Canteen	60.00	60.00
Court Fees and Fines	19,933.51	20,143.32

Overall, the Accounts Section continues to ensure prudent financial management and accountability, supporting the Judiciary's operational and strategic objectives with transparency and efficiency.



Our 2024 budget comprised funding for four projects this year for a total sum of SCR 2,228.08million this include:

- Partitioning in the Attic (Phase 3) – SR 1.1 mn
- Extended roofing of the Magistrate Court Building – SR 100 k
- Major Repair of PDJ – SR 700 k
- Judiciary for Renovation – SR 300 k

The Accounts section Main Cashiering Unit is responsible for the collection of revenues. Revenues collected are mainly by way of court fees and fines, however we also collect fees from the renewal of licences for legal practitioners and from Rental of our canteen as well as sales of law review,

Our total forecasted revenue collection for 2023 was SR 19.4 million. Year to date (September 23) we have collected SR15.2 and we are well on our way to achieve our target.

**Table – Non Tax Revenue Judiciary**

Description	Revised 2023 SR'000	Budget 2024 SR'000	Variance SR'000
Receipts transferred to Consolidated Funds	20,242.15	20,209.21	(32.94)
Court fees and Fines	19,969.45	19,933.51	(35.94)
Attorney License Fees	192.00	195.00	3.00
Rental of Canteen	60.00	60.00	-
Sale of SLR (Seychelles Law Review)	20.70	20.70	-



## Civil Registry

### Supreme Court

The Civil Registry continued with the same routine every year. Its primary roles include organizing and maintaining case files, ensuring data integrity, providing a central point for managing registrations and updates, and making records accessible for use and reference.

As of 31st December 2024, 800 cases found pending for Civil Section including all case categories. In 2025, Civil Registry registered 862 cases as of 30th November 2025 and 813 cases completed in the same period of time.

### Constitutional Court

The beginnings of 2025, Constitutional Court start with 9 pending cases as of 30th November 2024. 8 cases filed in 2025 from 01st January to 30th November 2025 that makes a total of 17 cases pending. From January to November 2025, Constitutional Court completed 10 cases.



**Magistrates Court Registry**



**Employment Tribunal Secretariat**

## The Registries



**Supreme Court Criminal Registry**



**Court of Appeal Registry**



**Supreme Court Civil Registry**



## Criminal Registry, Supreme Court

During the year 2025 there has been a significant decrease in the number of criminal cases filed compared to the year 2023. As at 30th November 2025 a total number of 56 criminal cases were filed compared to 77 for the year 2024 and 99 for the year 2025.

## Court Support Staff



**Court Reporters**



**Court Interpreters**

## Legal aid

From 01st December 2023 to 30th November 2024 a total number of 846 legal aid applications were filed. Out of these 683 were approved, 150 were refused and 13 were cancelled by the applicants. During the period of 01st December 2024 to 30th November 2025 a total number of 671 legal aid applications were filed. Out of these, 538 were approved, 82 were refused, 13 were cancelled by the applicants and 38 applications are being processed.



**Court Process Servers**



**Court Orderlies**

## HUMAN RESOURCES DEPARTMENT

The Human Resource Department (HR) is responsible for the delivery of a comprehensive service for the Judiciary which includes a variety of activities, and key among them is deciding staffing needs, recruiting the best people, training employees, ensuring they are high performers, dealing with performance issues, and ensuring the human resources and administration practices conform to various regulations. Human resources are a valuable asset, and we have seen a great transformation under the dynamic leadership of the head of the organization with employees being provided with opportunities for continuous learning and enhancing skills for better decision making. In line with skills development and the commitment to take on new responsibilities, the Judiciary has fostered a culture that supports internal growth and movement. Hence, the opportunity for promotions exist. The following is the updated report of the department between December 2024 and November 2025:

### a) Recruitment

From January up to December 2025 the Judiciary fills up 17 vacancies which included replacement for the post of Magistrate, System Support Manager, Assistant Registrar for Praslin Magistrate's Court, Court Interpreters, and Court Reporters among others. With the introduction of the Commercial Court, a new post in the capacity of Judge of the Supreme Court was created. Another new post created this year, is the position of Secretary to the Fair Trading Tribunal where one of our Assistant Registrar with years of experience and dedication was given the opportunity to serve in this capacity.

The Judiciary is continuously supporting the Apprenticeship Training scheme and Work Based Experience for Post- Secondary Institutions whereby the learners from the school of Seychelles Institute of Technology, Seychelles Business Studies Academy and NIHSS are gaining experience and acquire new skills in the fields of electrical installation, and other trades, Information Technology, Finance, Business Administration, Human Resource Management and Registration & Mediation.

In addition, to promote career and focus on the development of individuals to meet the current and future requirements, our existing employees were given the opportunity to move forward in their profession by embarking in new roles and responsibilities such as the posts of Chief Court Reporter, Chief Court Orderly, Assistant Registrar, and Senior Court Reporter among others. As customary every year the Judiciary participates in annual recruitment fair held at different institutions to meet potential employees for prospective vacancies and to engage more directly with the students who will join the labor market.

### Staff Incentive

The Judiciary continues to provide an Employee Incentive Program to attract, engage and retain talent which result in motivating positive behaviors.

- Improved Scheme of Service
- Yearly Certificate Presentation Ceremony with other awards
- Regular, focused skills training
- Training in self-care and well-being
- Uniform
- Staff transfer
- General Health Program
- Social Activities Program



**Director, HR & HR Assistants**



## New Appointments & Staff Movements 2024-2025

Name	Post Title	Appointment Date	Resignation date	Retirement date	Promotion date
2025					
Mrs Natasha Burian	Judge Commercial Court	Appointed Judge 8th April 2025			
Mr Andy Asba	Master of the Supreme Court	Appointed Master 3rd July 2025			
Mrs Brigitte Confait	Chief Magistrate	Appointed Chief Magistrate on 1st October 2025			
Ms Nisha Alleear	Magistrate	Appointed Magistrate 6th October 2025			
Ms Karine Dick	Magistrate	Appointed Magistrate 15th December 2025			
Mrs Gilliette Labiche	Law Clerk	Internal Transfer from Court of Appeal Registry to Civil Registry of the Supreme Court 1st March 2025			
Ms Dyllis Simeon	Law Clerk	Internal Transfer of post from Court Orderly to Law Clerk 1st September 2025			
Ms Keara Rosette	Law Clerk	Internal Transfer of post from Court Reporter to Law Clerk 15th December 2025			
Ms Shena Labrosse	Assistant Registrar				Promoted from Senior Court Reporter to Assistant Registrar 1st March 2025
Ms Jacqueline Port-Louis	Chief Court Orderly				Promoted from Senior Court Orderly to Chief Court Orderly 17th March 2025
Mrs Joshuanna Sandapin	Chief Court Reporter				Promoted from Senior Court Reporter to Chief Court Reporter 1st May 2025
Mr Lane Louise	Chauffeur to Judge				Promoted from Driver/Messenger to Chauffeur to Judge 1st May 2025
Mrs Edwige Cadeau	Secretary to the Fair Trading Tribunal				Promoted from Assistant Registrar to Secretary to the Fair Trading Tribunal 1st July 2025
Ms Nelly Micock	Senior Accounts Assistant				Promoted from Accounts Assistant to Senior Accounts Assistant 1st July 2025
Ms Shaila Simeon	Senior Court Reporter				Promoted from Court Reporter to Senior Court Reporter 1st July 2025

## Table – Staff of the Judiciary: 2025

SUPREME AND MAGISTRATES' COURTS	2025		
Job title	Male	Female	Total
Registrar	-	1	1
Deputy Registrar Criminal Division	-	1	1
Senior Assistant Registrar	-	1	1
Assistant Registrar	-	3	3
Senior Law Clerk	-	4	4
Law Clerk	-	13	13
Compliance Officer	-	1	1
PA to Chief Justice	-	1	1
Director of Legal Affairs in Chief Justice Office	1	-	1
Senior Judicial Research Counsel	-	1	1
Judicial Research Counsel	1	4	5
Chief Court Orderly	-	1	1
Senior Court Orderly	-	1	1
Court Orderly	1	18	19
Chief Court Reporter	-	1	1
Senior Court Reporter	-	2	2
Court Reporter	-	23	23
PR & Court Services Officer	-	1	1
Chief Court Interpreter	-	1	1
Senior Court Interpreter	1	-	1
Court Interpreter	-	18	18
Chief Process Server	1	-	1
Senior Process Server	1	-	1
Process Server	5	-	5
Chauffeur to Judge	13	-	13
Driver/Messenger	2	-	2
Private Secretary (Registrar's office)	-	1	1
Director of Human Resource	-	1	1
Director of Operations & Logistics	1	-	1
Maintenance Supervisor	1	-	1
Maintenance Officer	2	-	2
Senior Human Resource Officer	-	1	1
Human Resource Officer	-	1	1
Manager System Support	-	-	-
Senior, System Support	1	-	1
System Support Officer	1	-	1
Asst System Support Officer	1	-	1
Security Coordinator	-	1	1
Security Supervisor	1	-	1
Documentation Officer	-	1	1
Documentation Assistant, Senior	-	1	1
Documentation Assistant	-	1	1
Assistant Archive Officer	-	1	1



Archive Assistant	-	2	2
Financial Controller	-	1	1
Accountant	-	1	1
Senior Accounts Assistant	-	3	3
Accounts Assistant	-	4	4
Procurement Officer	-	1	1
Assist Administrative/Welfare Officer	-	1	1
Receptionist	-	2	2
Housekeeper Supervisor	-	1	1
Housekeeper	-	17	17
Handyman/Gardener	4	-	4
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>138</b>	<b>176</b>
<b>COURT OF APPEAL</b>			
<b>2024</b>			
Job title	Male	Female	Total
PA to President of Court of Appeal	-	1	1
Deputy Registrar	-	1	1
Judicial Research Counsel	1	-	1
Law Clerk	-	2	2
Senior Court Reporter	-	1	1
Court Reporter	-	1	1
Receptionist/Clerk	-	1	1
Chauffeur to Judge	1	-	1
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>FAMILY TRIBUNAL</b>			
<b>2024</b>			
Job title	Male	Female	Total
Secretary of the Tribunal	-	1	1
Board Member (Full Time)	-	2	2
Assistant Registrar	-	1	1
Court Reporter	-	2	2
Senior Law Clerk	-	1	1
Law Clerk	-	5	5
Senior Court Orderly	-	1	1
Documentation Assistant	-	1	1
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>FAIR TRADING TRIBUNAL</b>			
<b>2024</b>			
Job title	Male	Female	Total
Secretary of the Tribunal	-	1	1
Law Clerk	-	1	1
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>

EMPLOYMENT TRIBUNAL		2024		
Job title	Male	Female	Total	
Secretary of the Tribunal	1	-	1	
Senior Law Clerk	1	1	2	
Law Clerk	-	1	1	
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>4</b>	
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>163</b>	<b>205</b>	

### Years Of Service In Public Sector : 2024

15 Years and above	20 Years and above	25 Years and above	30 Years and above	35 Years and above	40 Years and above
Ms Anette Jolicoeur	Ms Juanita Rouillon	Mr. Sonny Serret	Mrs. Chantal Leste	Mrs. Marie-Claire Julie	Mrs. Vivienne Vadivello
Ms Marguerite Esparon	Ms Karen Quatre	Mrs Dora Moustache	Ms. Jacqueline Port-Louis	Ms. Cecile Boniface	Mrs. Jemina Lucas
Ms Joshuanna Sandapin	Mr Paul Bonnelame	Mr. Nilsen Laurence		Ms. Anne Marguerite Magloire	
Mr Rolly Hoareau	Ms Sumita Valmont	Mr. Tony Alcindor		Mrs. Lathimy Emerite	
Mrs. Katy Nuhey	Mr Randy Gangadoo	Ms Louisa Louise		Mrs Quincy Famakinwa	
Mrs Marie-Therese Bristol	Ms Josianne Medor	Mrs. Louisanne Leveau			
Ms Andrica Henriette	Mr Antoine Albert	Ms Fadette Amice			
Ms Brenda Florine	Ms Marie-Angele Barbe	Mrs. Emmanuella Bonne			
Ms Laureen Hoareau	Ms Terryna Casquette	Ms Nichole Cesar			
Mr France Kilindo	Mrs Edwige Cadeau	Ms Priscilla Lesperance			
Mr Innocent Sophola	Ms Jacqueline Morel	Ms Queency Lozaïque			
Mrs. Gaetanne Gonthier	Ms Daniella Pool	Ms Gena Labrosse			
Ms Patrica Fred	Ms Dania Sinon				
Ms Denise Benstrong					



**Table – International events attended in January 2025 – November 2025 by Judges, Magistrates and Support Staff**

Event	Dates	Location	Attendees
Judicial Trainers Annual General Meeting	21st – 23rd January 2025	Johannesburg, South Africa	Ms Emily Gonthier, Magistrate
Training in the second cycle of the Mechanism for the Review of Implementation of the Convention	13th – 14th February 2025	Vienna, Austria	Ms Emily Gonthier, Magistrate
Commonwealth Judicial Education Institute Patron Chief Justices' meeting	6th April 2025	St Julian's Bay, Malta	Mr David Esparon, Judge of the Supreme Court
Train-the-Trainer course on the Maputo Protocol and Gender-Based Violence	28th – 30th April 2025	Cape Town, South Africa	Ms Emily Gonthier, Magistrate
Annual General Meeting & Conference of the Southern & Eastern Africa Chief Justices' Forum (SEACJF)	7th – 12th October 2025	Gaborone, Botswana	Mr Brassel Adeline, Judge of the Supreme Court
The SEAJAA Annual General Meeting	5th – 10th October 2025	Gaborone, Botswana	Mr. Lionel Garrick, Director of Legal Affairs
The SEAJAA Annual General Meeting	5th – 10th October 2025	Gaborone, Botswana	Ms Marie-Angele Barbe, Deputy Registrar
Constitutionalism and State-Building in Africa	27th – 30th October 2025	Addis Ababa, Ethiopia	Mr Rony Govinden, Chief Justice
Constitutionalism and State-Building in Africa	27th – 30th October 2025	Addis Ababa, Ethiopia	Mr Brassel Adeline, Judge of the Supreme Court
Constitutionalism and State-Building in Africa	27th – 30th October 2025	Addis Ababa, Ethiopia	Mr. Lionel Garrick, Director of Legal Affairs

Training Log		
Name	Course	Institution
Nelly Micock	Aat Level 2	SIDOL
Sandrine Samynadin	A Level Law	SIDOL
Michelle Govinden	A Level Law	SIDOL
Nichole Mathurin	Labour Law	TGMI
Versange Atala	Labour Law	TGMI
Marcia Govinden	Labour Law	TGMI
Lisa Louise	Labour Law	TGMI
Marie-Angele Barbe	Labour Law	TGMI
Anette Jolicoeur	Labour Law	TGMI
Fadette Amice	English Igcse	SIDOL
Nicole Cesar	English Igcse	SIDOL
Eileen Rouillon	English Igcse	SIDOL
Queency Lozaique	English Igcse	SIDOL
Lisa William	General Management	TGMI
Karen Quatre	General Management	TGMI
Marcia Govinden	Human Resource Management	TGMI
Joshuanna Sandapin	General Management	TGMI
Ingrid Dodin	Office Management	TGMI
Akyra Rachel	Customer Service	STA
Ineeze Quatre	Customer Service	STA
Shawn Hoareau	It Essential I&2	UNISEY
Jean-Francois Servina	Ccna I - Introduction To Network	UNISEY
ALL STAFF - 1st group	Productivity Training	MINISTRY OF EMPLOYMENT
ALL STAFF - 2nd Group	Productivity Training	MINISTRY OF EMPLOYMENT
Versange Atala	Coaching Mentoring and Counselling	TGMI
Barbara Hertel	Coaching Mentoring and Counselling	TGMI
Shelda William	Coaching Mentoring and Counselling	TGMI
Shena Labrosse	Coaching Mentoring and Counselling	TGMI



## Training Log

Name	Course	Institution
Denis Hermitte	Coaching Mentoring and Counselling	TGMI
Jacqueline Port-Louis	Coaching Mentoring and Counselling	TGMI
Daniella Pool	Coaching Mentoring and Counselling	TGMI
Nathalie Payet	Coaching Mentoring and Counselling	TGMI
Joshuanna Sandapin	Coaching Mentoring and Counselling	TGMI
Vivienne Vadivelo	Coaching Mentoring and Counselling	TGMI
Prischilla Ombolo	Coaching Mentoring and Counselling	TGMI
Christopher Thomas	Coaching Mentoring and Counselling	TGMI
Jeven Renaud	Managing People	TGMI
Juanita Rouillon	Managing People	TGMI
Christopher Thomas	Managing People	TGMI
Bernard St Ange	General Management	TGMI
Don Laramé	Supervisory Skills for the Practising Supervisor	TGMI
All Registry Staff	Customer Care	STA

## OPERATIONS &amp; LOGISTICS DEPARTMENT

## Operations &amp; Logistics Structure



The Judiciary Operations and Logistics Department plays a critical role in ensuring the seamless functioning of the following key units: Housekeeping, Maintenance, Information & Technology, Security, Transport & Drivers and Projects. The Operations & Logistics essentially is a back support department of the Judiciary. This annual report outlines the department's performance over the past year, highlighting key achievements, as well as challenges encountered and strategies implemented to overcome them. The importance and value of a maintenance team at the judiciary cannot be overstated, as they play a crucial role in ensuring the smooth and efficient functioning of judicial institutions. In summary, our dedicated Maintenance Team is integral to the Judiciary's ability to deliver justice efficiently, securely, and professionally. Their work ensures that the physical environment supports the Judiciary's mission and upholds public confidence in the legal system. The input of the Maintenance Team have significantly lowered operating costs of the organization. There is no need to engage external suppliers for small maintenance work and the reason we will continue to grow the team further to be able to adequately support all our buildings in a timely manner.

End of 2024 we lost SCR 1,759 m for the Archive Project due to delays in approval procedures. Implementation of the project started on 22 April 2025 for a 26 weeks duration and at a cost of SCR 3,337,451.80. This cost include SCR 631,350 for the replacement of one of the skylight of PDJ which was badly cracked. There is a necessity also to replace the other two skylights.

## Projects completed

- Installation of CCTV Cameras at the Magistrate Court on Praslin.
- Completion of the repartition the offices of the Family Tribunal Secretariat on Praslin, to create a

sitting area for members of the public accessing the Tribunal's services, in addition to insulating the partitions in order to soundproof the offices. It is expected these new arrangements will help enhance privacy at the Secretariat and improve service delivery.

- Installation of doors in the corridors leading to the judge's Chambers on the ground and first floors of PDJ. On the doors, we have installed door access controls and on the doors of the Judge's Chambers. This is part of the security enhancement, which is being done in phases.
- Installation of canopy at PDJ to prevent rain seeping onto the floor.

## Ongoing Projects

- Renovation of La Digue Magistrate Court
- Security fencing for the PDJ
- New Reception Counter at the PDJ and replacement of doors
- In July 2025 the Senior Management took a decision to source out immediate another location to relocate the Anse Royale Magistrate Court. This followed health concerns raised by staff. We managed to find a space in the Maison Royale close by and quickly concluded the formalities with PMC. The move was made in August and as from the 8 of September the Magistrate Court is operating in its new location.



Security Section



## Key Achievements

- Established a structured cleaning schedule for all buildings ensuring, daily, weekly and monthly cleaning are completed proficiently.
- Budget support for fencing around PDJ and for fixing fire panel at Magistrate and propose new for PDJ, Annex
- Support from management on security projects such as additional cameras, access controls, maintenance and repair of old equipment eg: walkthrough metal detectors also purchasing of one new, automated gate repairs.
- Good cooperation from staff and other units when ever necessary eg: when conducted evacuation.
- Good response from contractors working close with security dept eg: hardware solutions and Active security, Sentinel Security.
- Good coordination with the police, Prison and other stakeholders whenever necessary.
- Good understanding and support from the Judges and Magistrates whenever they were needed eg: during risk assessment and access control installations.
- Good cooperation from members of the public to obey directive from security personals at all entrances to ease access control at entry points.
- Installation of proper signage facilitates security directives to our visitors.
- Develop a professional development plan for all team members incorporating different approaches and exposure for individuals to achieve their goals.
- Replacement of 41 non-compliant toilets in PDJ.
- Developed and implement a succession plan for Operations & Logistics Management



Director of Operations and Logistics with Maintenance Section staff

## Looking Ahead

We are committed to building on our current progress. We will groom candidates for future management roles. Major renovations of PDJ will be implemented. We aim to increase efficiency in operations performance. Innovation will be fostered through technology integration. The maintenance team will grow to meet expectations. We will promote a culture of continuous improvement, with a special focus on landscaping.



IT Team



## Housekeeping Team

The Housekeeping team's commitment to maintaining a clean, safe, and functional environment within the judiciary facilities has been paramount in ensuring that the judiciary's operations run smoothly.

### Team Structure and Staffing:

The Housekeeping Team consists of 18 dedicated women committed to maintaining high standards of hygiene and orderliness in all judicial facilities. The team is structured as follows:

Housekeeping Supervisor: Oversees daily operations and ensures compliance with health and safety standards.  
Housekeeping Staff: Responsible for routine cleaning, maintaining a clean and safe working environment, and organization within courts and offices.



Housekeeping Section

## KEY ACHIEVEMENTS:

- One additional staff in security office (security supervisor)
- One Security officer for Anse Royale Court
- Refresher course for all security personnel on the code of conduct
- Maintain a complete security team for physical presence on all premises throughout the year.
- Attended trainings with TGMI
- Maintain good liaison /cooperation with the Police, Prison Dept and other agencies.
- Obtain good services from our suppliers/ contractors.

## Drivers

The judiciary depends on a dedicated pool of drivers for the transportation of judges and legal staff to judicial events, with a focus on their performance, utilization, and requirements.

The pool of drivers comprises 16 full-time and 1 Transport Officer operating 25 vehicles, including Sonata Saloons, Toyota RAV4 SUVs, Kia Soul Station Wagons and buses, with reported utilization rates of 75% due to an aging fleet of vehicles requiring constant maintenance. With exception of 3 vehicles acquired in 2024 all the rest are over 5 years old. The oldest in the fleet dates back to 2013.



Transport Section

- Obtain continuous support from management
- Support to maintain the CCTV coverage on the 24hr basis
- Install new alarms at registrar and 2 cashier locations
- Additional camera at Judges Gate, attic, COA
- Electronic gates at main entrance and Judges gate maintenance
- Additional outdoor security lights install
- Manage to control access throughout the gas incidents/ conduct evacuations of buildings
- Lockers for members of the public at all entrances
- Notice for attire and illegal objects affix on magistrate building
- Flag pole install at MCB
- Parking at MCB rear has been amended.



## STATISTICS

### COMPARATIVE STATISTICS

Case Clearance in the Judiciary			
Year	Cases Filed	Cases Completed	Case Clearance
2024	5956	6044	102%
2025	5933	5921	99%

Comparative Case – Total Clearance from 2024 to 2025					
Court	Year	Cases Filed	Cases Completed	Case Clearance Rate	
Court of Appeal	2023	115	159	139%	
	2024	69	100	145%	
Supreme Court	2023	1162	1144	99%	
	2024	1062	1010	96%	
Constitutional Court	2023	13	10	77%	
	2024	4	6	150%	
Victoria Magistrate Court	2023	2062	1929	94%	
	2024	1977	1942	99%	
Anse Royale	2023	958	966	101%	
	2024	1050	906	87%	
Praslin Magistrate Court	2023	120	117	98%	
	2024	167	128	191%	
La Digue Magistrates Court	2023	48	46	96%	
	2024	90	62	69%	
Tribunals Employment Tribunal	2023	236	167	71%	
	2024	172	215	125%	
Family Tribunal	2023	1467	1328	91%	
	2024	1525	1319	87%	
Praslin Family Tribunal	2023	209	175	84%	
	2024	244	174	72%	
Fair Trading Tribunal	2023	15	36	240%	
	2024	54	37	69%	

### Comparative Case – Total Clearance from 2024 to 2025

Court		Year	Cases Filed	Cases Completed	Case Clearance Rate
	Court of Appeal	2024	69	100	145%
		2025	68	64	95%
	Supreme Court	2024	1067	1035	97%
		2025	1053	957	91%
	Constitutional Court	2024	9	12	134%
		2025	15	9	60%
Magistrates	Victoria Magistrate Court	2024	1997	1942	98%
		2025	1719	1708	99%
	Anse Royale	2024	1063	907	86%
		2025	873	1016	117%
	Praslin Magistrate Court	2024	166	150	91%
		2025	215	201	94%
	La Digue Magistrates Court	2024	89	71	80%
		2025	93	84	91%
Tribunals	Employment Tribunal	2024	187	224	120%
		2025	153	174	114%
	Family Tribunal	2024	1550	1384	90%
		2025	1479	1489	101%
	Family Tribunal Praslin	2024	245	182	75%
		2025	214	176	83%
	Fair Trading Tribunal	2024	54	37	69%
		2025	51	43	85%

Comparative Cases – Completed between 2024 and 2025				
Court	Year	Civil	Criminal	Total
Court of Appeal	2024	66	34	100
	2025	21	43	64
Supreme Court	2024	881	186	1067
	2025	895	158	1053
Constitutional Court	2024	12		12
	2025	9		9



Magistrates	Victoria Magistrate Court	2024	232	1710	1942
		2025	211	1497	1708
	Anse Royale	2024		907	907
		2025		1016	1016
	Praslin Magistrate Court	2024	4	146	150
		2025	1	200	201
	La Digue Magistrates Court	2024		71	71
		2025		84	84
Tribunals	Employment Tribunal	2024	214	11	225
		2025	160	14	174
	Family Tribunal	2024	1566		1566
		2025	1665		1665
	Fair Trading Tribunal	2024	37		37
		2025	43		43

Comparative Cases Filed between 2024 and 2025						
Court		Year	Civil	Criminal	Total	
Magistrates	Court of Appeal	2024	45	24	69	
		2025	49	19	68	
	Supreme Court	2024	881	186	1067	
		2025	895	158	1053	
	Constitutional Court	2024	9		9	
		2025	15		15	
	Victoria Magistrate Court	2024	266	1731	1997	
		2025	212	1507	1719	
		Anse Royale	2024		1063	1063
			2025		873	873
Praslin Magistrate Court		2024	3	163	166	
		2025	4	211	215	
La Digue Magistrates Court		2024		89	89	
		2025		93	93	

Tribunals	Employment Tribunal	2024	170	16	186
		2025	140	13	153
	Family Tribunal	2024	1795		1795
		2025	1692		1692
	Fair Trading Tribunal	2024	54		54
		2025	51		51

## COURT OF APPEAL

### Yearly Performance

2023/2024 from 01/12/2023 to 30/11/2024			
	Civil	Criminal	Total
Cases pending as of 01 December 2023	40	18	58
Cases filed between dates	45	24	69
Cases completed	66	34	100
Cases pending as of 30th November 2024	19	08	27

2024/2025 from 01/12/2024 to 30/11/2025			
	Civil	Criminal	Total
Cases pending as of 01 December 2024	19	09	28
Cases filed between dates	49	19	68
Cases completed	21	43	64
Cases pending as of 30 November 2025	25	07	32

### Cases Filed Per Category

2023/2024 from 01/12/2023 to 30/11/2024		
Civil	Civil Appeals	22
	Constitutional Appeals	03
	Miscellaneous Applications	20
	Total	45
Criminal	Criminal Appeals	16
	Criminal Miscellaneous Applications	08
	Total	24
Total		69

2024/2025 from 01/12/2024 to 30/11/2025		
Civil	Civil Appeals	29
	Constitutional Appeals	03
	Miscellaneous Applications	17
	Total	49
Criminal	Criminal Appeals	15
	Criminal Miscellaneous Applications	04
	Total	19
Total		68

### Year of filing of pending cases

Criminal Appeals as at 30th November 2025	
	2025
Criminal Appeals	7

Civil Appeals as at 30th November 2025	
	2025
Civil Appeals	17
Miscellaneous Applications	6
Constitutional Appeals	2



## SUPREME COURT

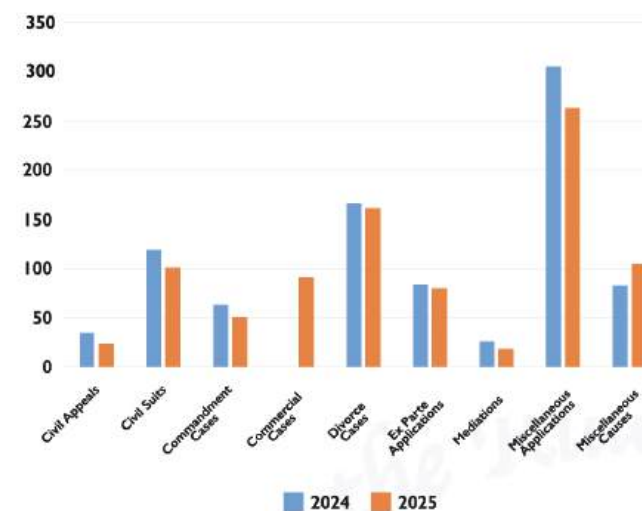
### Yearly Performance

2023/2024 from 01/12/2023 to 30/11/2024				2024/2025 from 01/12/2024 to 30/11/2025			
	Civil	Criminal	Total		Civil	Criminal	Total
Cases pending as of 01 December 2023	739	211	950	Cases pending as of 01 December 2024	798	191	989
Cases filed between dates	881	186	1067	Cases filed between dates	895	158	1053
Cases completed	829	206	1035	Cases completed	842	133	957
Cases pending as of 30th November 2024	798	191	989	Cases pending as of 30th November 2025	863	216	1079

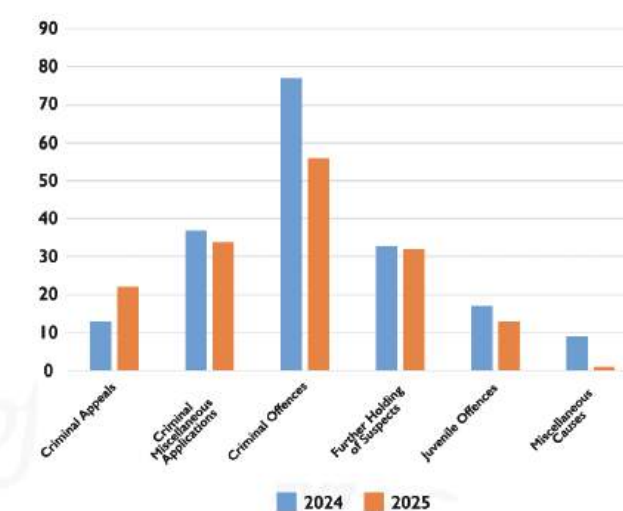
### Cases Filed Per Category

2023/2024 from 01/12/2023 to 30/11/2024			2024/2025 from 01/12/2024 to 30/11/2025		
Civil Appeals	35		Civil Appeals	24	
Civil Suits	119		Civil Suits	101	
Commandment Case	63		Commandment Case	51	
-			Commercial Case	91	
Divorce Causes	166		Divorce Causes	162	
Ex parte	84		Ex parte	80	
Mediation	26		Mediation	18	
Miscellaneous Application	305		Miscellaneous Application	263	
Miscellaneous Cause	83		Miscellaneous Cause	105	
Total	881		Total	895	
Criminal Appeals	13		Criminal Appeals	22	
Criminal Miscellaneous Applications	37		Criminal Miscellaneous Applications	34	
Criminal Offence	77		Criminal Offence	56	
Further Holding Suspect	33		Further Holding Suspect	32	
Juvenile Offence	17		Juvenile Offence	13	
Miscellaneous Causes	9		Miscellaneous Causes	1	
Total	186		Total	158	

### Supreme Court Civil Cases Filed



### Supreme Court Criminal Cases Filed



### Year of filing of pending cases

Civil cases as at 30th November 2025																
Court	2006	2007	2011	2013	2014	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	
Civil suits	2	1	1	1	0	1	3	12	30	26	45	55	81	68	64	
Civil appeals	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	4	7	10	12	
Miscellaneous Causes	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	2	2	5	4	12	25	27	54	
Commercial cases	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	72	
Ex Parte	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	7	15	
Miscellaneous applications	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	5	10	26	37	55	85	
Divorces	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	3	45	
Mediations	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	7	
Commandment	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	6	4	5	8	7	
Total	2	1	1	2	1	2	4	15	36	37	67	103	157	79	361	

Criminal cases as at 30 November 2024							
Court	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Criminal Appeals			1	2	6	11	14
Criminal Miscellaneous Applications		1		3	4	14	16
Criminal Offences		3	12	11	22	34	43
Juvenile Offences	1	1	1			4	9
Miscellaneous Causes							1
Further Holding of Suspects							2
Total	1	5	14	16	32	63	85



## CONSTITUTIONAL COURT

### Yearly Performance

2023/2024 from 01/12/2023 to 30/11/2024			2024/2025 from 01/12/2024 to 30/11/2025		
	Civil	Total		Civil	Total
Cases pending as of 01 December 2023	12	12	Cases pending as of 01 December 2024	9	9
Cases filed between dates	9	9	Cases filed between dates	15	15
Cases completed	12	12	Cases completed	9	9
Cases pending as of 30 November 2024	9	9	Cases pending as of 30 November 2025	15	15

### Cases Filed Per Category

2023/2024 from 01/12/2023 to 30/11/2023			2024/2025 from 01/12/2024 to 30/11/2025		
	Civil	Total		Civil	Total
Constitutional Petitions	4		Constitutional Petitions	9	
Miscellaneous Applications	5		Miscellaneous Applications	6	
Total	9		Total	15	

### Year of filing of pending cases

Constitutional cases as at 30th November 2024				
	2022	2023	2024	2025
Constitutional Petitions	3	1	3	6
Miscellaneous Applications	0	0	0	2
Total	3	1	3	8

## MAGISTRATES COURTS

### Victoria Magistrates Court Yearly Performance

2023/2024 from 01/12/2023 to 30/11/2024				2024/2025 from 01/12/2024 to 30/11/2025			
	Civil	Criminal	Total		Civil	Criminal	Total
Cases pending as of 01 December 2023	150	810	960	Cases pending as of 01 December 2024	188	825	1013
Cases filed between dates	266	1731	1997	Cases filed between dates	212	1507	1719
Cases completed	232	1710	1942	Cases completed	211	1497	1708
Cases pending as of 30 November 2024	188	825	1013	Cases pending as of 30 November 2025	189	835	1024

### Cases Filed Per Category

2023/2024 from 01/12/2023 to 30/11/2024			2024/2025 from 01/12/2024 to 30/11/2025		
	Civil	Total		Civil	Total
Civil Suits	163		Civil Suits	121	
Miscellaneous Applications	60		Miscellaneous Applications	56	
Rent Board Cases	43		Rent Board Cases	35	
Total	266		Total	212	
Breach of the Peace	94		Breach of the Peace	107	
Criminal Miscellaneous Applications	359		Criminal Miscellaneous Applications	304	
Criminal Offences	636		Criminal Offences	550	
Ex Parte Applications	23		Ex Parte Applications	15	
Further Holding of Suspects	66		Further Holding of Suspects	67	
Public Inquiry/ Inquests	6		Public Inquiry/Inquests	1	
Traffic & Environment Offences	547		Traffic & Environment Offences	463	
Total	1731		Total	1507	
Total	1997		Total	1719	

### Year of filing of pending cases

Criminal cases as at 30th November 2025							
Court	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Criminal offences		1	3	6	44	129	320
Criminal miscellaneous applications						11	53
Traffic offences		1		5	9	45	158
Public Inquiry/inquests				1	3	5	
Ex Parte Applications							8
Breach of peace							24
Further holding of suspects						5	5
Total		2	3	12	56	195	568

Civil cases as at 30th November 2025							
Court	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Civil suit	1		3	12	16	30	53
Miscellaneous applications					6	19	40
Rent Board			1	2		1	5
Total	1		4	14	22	50	98



### Anse Royale Magistrates Court Yearly Performance

2023/2024 from 01/12/2023 to 30/11/2024			2024/2025 from 01/12/2024 to 30/11/2025		
	Criminal	Total		Criminal	Total
Cases pending as of 01 December 2023	390	390	Cases pending as of 01 December 2024	546	546
Cases filed between dates	1063	1063	Cases filed between dates	873	873
Cases completed	907	907	Cases completed	1016	1016
Cases pending as of 30 November 2023	546	546	Cases pending as of 30 November 2025	403	403

### Cases Filed Per Category

2023/2024 from 01/12/2023 to 30/11/2024			2024/2025 from 01/12/2024 to 30/11/2025		
	Criminal	Total		Criminal	Total
Breach of the Peace	58		Breach of the Peace	64	
Criminal Miscellaneous Applications	354		Criminal Miscellaneous Applications	386	
Criminal Offences	487		Criminal Offences	325	
Further Holding of Suspects	47		Further Holding of Suspects	41	
Traffic & Environment Offences	116		Traffic & Environment Offences	57	
Inquests	1		Total	1063	
Total	1063				

### Year of filing of pending cases

Criminal cases as at 30th November 2025					
Court	2022	2023	2024	2025	
Criminal offences	3	6	52	125	
Criminal miscellaneous applications	2	2	22	154	
Traffic offences	1		7	12	
Breach of peace			2	13	
Further Holding of suspects				1	
Public Inquiry/Inquests				1	
Total	6	8	83	306	

### Praslin Magistrate Court Yearly Performance

2023/2024 from 01/12/2023 to 30/11/2024				2024/2025 from 01/12/2024 to 30/11/2025			
	Civil	Criminal	Total		Civil	Criminal	Total
Cases pending as of 01 December 2023	2	38	40	Cases pending as of 01 December 2024	1	55	56
Cases filed between dates	3	163	166	Cases filed between dates	4	211	215
Cases completed	4	146	150	Cases completed	1	200	201
Cases pending as of 30 November 2024	1	55	56	Cases pending as of 30 November 2025	4	66	70

### Cases Filed Per Category

2023/2024 from 01/12/2023 to 30/11/2024			2024/2025 from 01/12/2024 to 30/11/2025		
	Civil	Total		Civil	Total
Civil suits	3		Civil suits	4	
Total	3		Total	4	
Breach of the Peace	4		Breach of the Peace	8	
Criminal Miscellaneous Applications	12		Criminal Miscellaneous Applications	17	
Criminal Offences	126		Criminal Offences	134	
Further Holding of Suspects	8		Further Holding of Suspects	6	
Traffic & Environment Offences	13		Traffic & Environment Offences	46	
Total	163		Total	211	
Total	166		Total	215	

### Year of filing of pending cases

Criminal cases as at 30 November 2025					
Court	2022	2023	2024	2025	
Criminal Miscellaneous Applications		3	1	3	
Criminal Offences	1	3	4	46	
Traffic Offences			1	3	
Breach of the peace				1	
Total	1	6	6	53	

Civil cases as at 30 November 2025		
Court	2024	2025
Civil Suits	1	1
Miscellaneous Applications		2
Total	1	3



### La Digue Magistrates Court Yearly Performance

2023/2024 from 01/12/2023 to 30/11/2024			2024/2025 from 01/12/2024 to 30/11/2025		
	Criminal	Total		Criminal	Total
Cases pending as of 01 December 2023	18	18	Cases pending as of 01 December 2024	36	36
Cases filed between dates	89	89	Cases filed between dates	93	93
Cases completed	71	71	Cases completed	84	84
Cases pending as of 30 November 2024	36	36	Cases pending as of 30 November 2025	45	45

### Cases Filed Per Category

2023/2024 from 01/12/2023 to 30/11/2024			2024/2025 from 01/12/2024 to 30/11/2025		
	Criminal			Criminal	
Criminal Offences		75	Criminal Offences		83
Further Holding of Suspects		6	Further Holding of Suspects		2
Criminal Miscellaneous Applications		8	Criminal Miscellaneous Applications		6
-		-	Traffic		1
-		-	Breach of the peace		1
Total		89	Total		93

### Year of filing of pending cases

Criminal cases as at 30th November 2025				
Court	2023	2024	2025	
Criminal offences		5	31	
Criminal miscellaneous applications	3	2	3	
Breach of peace			1	
Total	3	7	35	

## TRIBUNALS

### Family Tribunal – Mahe Yearly Performance

2023/2024 from 01/12/2023 to 30/11/2024			2024/2025 from 01/12/2024 to 30/11/2025		
	Civil	Total		Civil	Total
Cases pending as of 01 December 2023	768	768	Cases pending as of 01 December 2024	686	686
Cases filed between dates	1550	1550	Cases filed between dates	1479	1479
Cases completed	1384	1384	Cases completed	1489	1489
Cases pending as of 30 November 2024	628	628	Cases pending as of 30 November 2025	730	730

### Cases Filed Per Category

2023/2024 from 01/12/2023 to 30/11/2024			2024/2025 from 01/12/2024 to 30/11/2025		
	Civil			Civil	
Family Causes		327	Family Causes		228
Family Violence		529	Family Violence		549
Mediations		124	Mediations		120
Miscellaneous Applications		570	Miscellaneous Applications		582
Total		1550	Total		1479

### Family Tribunal – Praslin Yearly Performance

2023/2024 from 01/12/2023 to 30/11/2024			2024/2025 from 01/12/2024 to 30/11/2025		
	Civil	Total		Civil	Total
Cases pending as of 01 December 2023	19	19	Cases pending as of 01 December 2024	16	16
Cases filed between dates	245	245	Cases filed between dates	213	213
Cases completed	182	182	Cases completed	176	176
Cases pending as of 30 November 2024	35	35	Cases pending as of 30 November 2025	128	128

### Cases Filed Per Category

2023/2024 from 01/12/2023 to 30/11/2024			2024/2025 from 01/12/2024 to 30/11/2025		
	Civil			Civil	
Family Causes		69	Family Causes		51
Family Violence		60	Family Violence		53
Mediations		2	Mediations		0
Miscellaneous Applications		114	Miscellaneous Applications		109
Total		245	Total		213



## Employment Tribunal Yearly Performance

2023/2024 from 01/12/2023 to 30/11/2024				2024/2025 from 01/12/2024 to 30/11/2025			
	Civil	Criminal	Total		Civil	Criminal	Total
Cases pending as of 01 December 2023	230	18	351	Cases pending as of 01 December 2024	169	16	185
Cases filed between dates	168	16	184	Cases filed between dates	140	13	153
Cases completed	211	11	222	Cases completed	160	14	174
Cases pending as of 30 November 2024	187	23	219	Cases pending as of 30 November 2025	149	15	164

## Cases Filed Per Category

2023/2024 from 01/12/2023 to 30/11/2024			2024/2025 from 01/12/2024 to 30/11/2025		
Civil	Civil Suits	168	Civil	Civil Suits	140
	Judgments by Consent	20		Judgments by Consent	21
	Miscellaneous Applications			Miscellaneous Applications	
	Total	188		Total	161
	Criminal Offences	16		Criminal Offences	13
	Total	16		Total	13
Total		204	Total		174

## Employment Tribunal – Praslin Yearly Performance

2023/2024 from 01/12/2023 to 30/11/2024				2024/2025 from 01/12/2024 to 30/11/2025			
	Civil	Criminal	Total		Civil	Criminal	Total
Cases pending as of 01 December 2023	5	0	5	Cases pending as of 01 December 2024	5	0	5
Cases filed between dates	3	0	3	Cases filed between dates	0	0	0
Cases completed	2	0	2	Cases completed	0	0	0
Cases pending as of 30 November 2024	6	0	6	Cases pending as of 30 November 2025	5	0	5

## Cases Filed Per Category

2023/2024 from 01/12/2023 to 30/11/2024		
Civil	Civil Suits	3
	Total	3

## Fair Trading Tribunal Yearly Performance

2023/2024 from 01/12/2023 to 30/11/2024			2024/2025 from 01/12/2024 to 30/11/2025		
	Civil	Total		Civil	Total
Cases pending as of 01 December 2023	16	16	Cases pending as of 01 December 2024	33	33
Cases filed between dates	54	54	Cases filed between dates	51	51
Cases completed	37	37	Cases completed	43	43
Cases pending as of 30 November 2024	33	33	Cases pending as of 30 November 2025	41	41

## Cases Filed Per Category

2023/2024 from 01/12/2023 to 30/11/2024			2024/2025 from 01/12/2024 to 30/11/2025		
Civil	Civil Suits	28	Civil	Civil Suits	24
	Miscellaneous Applications	0		Miscellaneous Applications	9
	Civil Appeals	9		Civil Appeals	6
	Miscellaneous Causes	17		Miscellaneous Causes	12
	Total	54		Total	51





## APPOINTMENTS

In 2025, the Judiciary promoted and swore in five judicial officers: the promotion of Mrs. Natasha Burian from Master of the Supreme Court to Judge of the Commercial Court; Mr. Andy Asba from Chief Magistrate to Master of the Supreme Court; the promotion of Ms. Brigitte Confait from Senior Magistrate to Chief Magistrate; and the appointments of Ms. Nisha Alleear and Ms. Karine Dick as Magistrates.

Mrs. Burian, Mr. Asba and Ms. Confait were elevated to the positions of Commercial Court Judge, Master and Chief Magistrate in recognition of their extensive service and leadership within the Judiciary. Ms. Alleear holds a Bachelor of Law with Honours from Middlesex University in the UK and was called to the Bar of England and Wales at the University of the West of England in 2019. She completed her pupillage at Georges & Co. law firm.

Ms. Karine Dick brings six years of experience as a practicing attorney with Georges & Co., where she became Senior Associate after her years of experience since being called to the Bar in February 2019. She was appointed as a Notary in April 2024, holds a Master's Degree in Business International Law, and currently serves on the Advisory Council of the Anti-Corruption Commission. She also contributes to legal education as an A-Level Law lecturer at SALS.



## EVENTS

### Reopening of the Supreme Court 2025 - "Justice For All: A Shared Responsibility"

Our much anticipated event to kick start the judicial year, hosted annually on 10 January, started with a church service at St. Paul's Cathedral, procession down Independence Avenue, Guard of Honor outside the Palais de Justice building, and the Chief Justice's speech in Courtroom I. Here are some photo highlights of this ceremonious occasion.



### Judiciary and UniSey Partner in First Paralegal Course

The Judiciary of Seychelles and the University of Seychelles (UniSey) have marked a groundbreaking moment in legal education with the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) and the official launch of Seychelles' first Certificate in Paralegal Studies.

The Chief Justice, Rony Govinden, and UniSey Vice Chancellor, Ms. Joëlle Perreau, highlighted the significance of this collaboration in their addresses.

"This partnership is a testament to our shared commitment to enhancing access to justice and bridging the gap between theoretical legal education and the practical realities of our judicial system," remarked Vice Chancellor Perreau. She emphasized that the initiative aligns with national priorities and will empower students through internships, workshops, and exposure to real-world legal practices.

Chief Justice Govinden echoed these sentiments, underscoring the Judiciary's dedication to fostering innovation in legal education and professional development. "The launch of this program signifies an essential step in building a competent workforce that supports the legal profession while promoting justice for all," he stated.





### Judiciary Donates to Ministry for Health

In a meaningful act of solidarity, social responsibility and social justice, the Judiciary of Seychelles presented a donation collected during the Reopening of Supreme Court church service in early January 2025. A total of SCR 6,812 and 10 euros was collected and will go to the North East Point Hospital – Hospice Unit.

Speaking at the event, which also commemorated World Social Justice Day, Chief Justice Rony Govinden highlighted the connection between justice and social responsibility:

"Justice is not only about courts and legal decisions—it is about humanity. It is about ensuring that no one is forgotten, especially in their most vulnerable moments. We recognize that dignity in life must extend to dignity in death. The Judiciary is proud to contribute to this cause.



### 18th Session of the Bureau of the Conference of African Constitutional Jurisdictions

The Chief Justice, Hon. Rony Govinden, attended the 18th session of the Bureau of the Conference of African Constitutional Jurisdictions, taking place in Cairo, Egypt, from January 24 to 25, 2025. Seychelles currently holds the esteemed position of Vice President of the Executive Board, reflecting the country's active role in promoting constitutionalism and the rule of law across Africa.

The program for the session includes the adoption of the agenda, the presentation of the report for the past year, the unveiling of this year's program, and the discussion of other pertinent matters. The event aims to strengthen collaboration among member jurisdictions and address key constitutional challenges in the region.

This year's theme, "The Role of Constitutionality Review in the Development of African Peoples," brings together judicial leaders from across the continent to address pressing constitutional and legal challenges, particularly in managing exceptional circumstances.



### First Lady Visits for Women's Day

The First Lady accepted the Judiciary's invitation to be a special guest speaker at a women's gathering this Friday 7 March afternoon at the Palais de Justice to share words of wisdom and insight. This was for the occasion of International Women's Day.

Staff had the opportunity to ask her questions, and she spoke candidly about her wish for women in Seychelles to uplift each other more rather than have animosity or jealousy amongst them, her special interest in the rights of children, the elderly, and single mothers, and how her biggest inspiration in her own life is her mother - who is still alive and in her 80s. She also shared some insights into her personal life and what it's like to juggle a public life with family responsibilities.



### UNODC

The Regional Representative of the for Eastern Africa, Ms. Ashita Mittal, paid a courtesy visit to the Chief Justice, Rony Govinden, this Wednesday 26 March 2025 at the Supreme Court.

A number of topics such as the ongoing collaboration on piracy case management, the legal frameworks in place to facilitate due process, and potentials for further support were all discussed.

In attendance was also Mostafa Elbanna, Programme Coordinator, UNODC Head of Office Seychelles and Mauritius, Leila Le Hane, the Judiciary's Director for Legal Affairs, Lionel Garrick, and Deputy Registrar, Marie-Angel Barbe.

Last week, other UNODC representatives - Ms. Pooja Bissounauthsing, Programme Officer (Legal) and Ms Elizabeth Onyango, National Programme Officer for the Indian Ocean - also met with the Chief Justice to touch bases on similar topics.



### Seychelles Defence Forces Visit

On Wednesday 2 April, the Judiciary welcomed 26 members of the Seychelles Defence Forces as part of a leadership training, offering insights into the judicial system, rule of law, and proper court conduct. The group was led by Sasha Marivel, Public Relations and Communications for the Judiciary, and Edwige Cadeau, Assistant Registrar for the Magistrates Court. Strengthening ties between justice and security ensures a well-informed and accountable society.



### School visit

On Wednesday 23 April, a group of students from Belonie school visited the Supreme Court as part of their program to learn about the branches of government. The Chief Justice answered their burning questions about jury trials, what it takes to become a judge, and what were some of the most difficult cases he's presided over. Public Relations Officer Sasha Marivel then took the students around for a tour of the various Courts to explain the judicial system and its customs. We always open our doors to curious young minds who wish to know more about the Judiciary.



### Long Service Awards

We proudly hosted its 2024 Long Service Awards and Certificate Presentation Ceremony on Friday 9 May evening at the Savoy Hotel, honouring over 100 staff members for their outstanding dedication, professional development, and enduring service.

The Judiciary recognised staff across all departments—including Courts, Administration, Judiciary Secretariat, and the Office of the Master and Registrar—for their years of committed service:

- 5 Years: 18 recipients
- 10 Years: 12 recipients
- 15 Years: 8 recipients
- 20 Years: 8 recipients
- 25 Years: 6 recipients
- 30 Years: 4 recipients
- 35 Years: 2 recipients



Quincy Famakinwa, Senior Court Orderly, and Anne Marguerite Magloire, Senior Court Reporter, were both awarded for their 35 years of service in the Judiciary. They spoke to media about this achievement, explaining that having a mindset of perseverance and dedication is what has made the difference for them in their careers.

Other awardees came from departments such as the Supreme Court, Magistrates' Court, Court of Appeal, Master's Chambers, Judicial Library, Human Resources, and the IT Unit, among others.



### Courtesy Calls Ahead of Presidential Elections

Representatives of the Electoral Institute for Sustainable Democracy in Africa met with the Chief Justice and our Director for Legal Affairs this Wednesday 19 March to discuss how Seychelles manages elections fairly and peacefully.

Mr. Valdiodio Ndiaye, country representative from the office in Madagascar, and Executive Director Baidessou Soukolgue, wanted to understand how the three branches of government function independently, what governs election procedures, and what experiences Seychelles can share with other fellow states in the region on elections.

This visit came ahead of the anticipated Presidential elections to be held in September this year.

The African Union and COMESA Election Observers who are currently in Seychelles for this Presidential election, paid a courtesy call to the Chief Justice on Friday 26 September morning.

They engaged on topics of judicial processes in electoral matters, the rules on recusal applicable to the Supreme Court, and the recent constitutional amendment establishing a transition period between the outgoing and incoming President.

The Observers further raised the topics of security and privileges for presidential candidates and also shared comparative insights on best practices from other jurisdictions, such as Zambia.

Concluding the remarks, Chief Justice Govinden stated that: "Democracy is the will of the people in action."





## Constitution Day Symposium

The annual symposium held on Tuesday 17 June 2025 critically examined the institutional framework underpinning judicial independence in Seychelles.

The Chief Justice, Hon. Rony Govinden, opened the session by reaffirming the vital role of judicial independence in maintaining democracy, good governance, and the rule of law, stating that "independence is not a privilege of judges, but a right of the people."

Delivering the keynote address, Hon. Anthony Fernando, President of the Court of Appeal, gave a wide-ranging and candid speech addressing not only the legal framework but also the practical and political pressures placed on the Judiciary.

He highlighted difficult cases such as those involving illegal drugs and serious offences, where governmental eagerness to curb crime sometimes resulted in prosecution lapses, requiring the courts to rigorously uphold standards of proof.

"It is these types of cases," he noted, "especially in a small jurisdiction like ours, which put the Judiciary under severe social pressure and to its utmost test in maintaining its impartiality and independence. We must act in accordance with the law, not public sentiment."

Citing examples from the Court of Appeal's jurisprudence, Justice Fernando referenced the 2014 and 2018 sexual offence and homicide decisions, and more recently, a 2024 appeal in a high-profile homicide case, where the Court upheld the Supreme Court's conviction despite public sympathy for the accused, affirming due process and evidentiary sufficiency over popular opinion.

One of the landmark legal developments referenced was the 2009 Court of Appeal ruling rejecting the blanket requirement for corroboration in sexual offence cases. The court held that this outdated standard "perpetuated misogynistic stereotypes and insulted the dignity of victims," declaring that such testimony should be assessed on credibility, not gendered suspicion. The court's evolving jurisprudence in 2021 and 2025 further affirmed that delays in reporting sexual offences must be considered in context and do not automatically weaken a case.

Discussions also tackled budgetary dependence on the Executive and Legislature. Justice Fernando strongly criticized the Judiciary's lack of financial autonomy: "The Judiciary cannot be seen to be going with the begging bowl to the Ministry of Finance or seek the indulgence of the National Assembly to approve its budget. This undermines justice delivery and erodes public trust. Judges are not ordinary public officers. They operate under unique professional and social restrictions to preserve impartiality."

Debates on separation of powers focused on how the appointment of judges by the Constitutional Appointments Authority, with presidential sign-off, risks creating perceptions of political influence. The need for procedural reforms and legislative adjustments to protect judicial impartiality was a recurring theme throughout the day.

The conference also reviewed internal mechanisms related to accountability, operational independence, judicial appointments, and ethical conduct, culminating in a working session to consolidate practical recommendations.



## Hot Seat Forum

Curiosity was in the spotlight at the third edition of the "Hot Seat" forum, where students from state and private schools on Mahé and Praslin engaged in a lively Q&A with the President of the Court of Appeal, Justice Anthony Fernando.

From children's rights, to what inspired him to join the legal profession, to how judges balance the letter of the law with fairness, students asked tough and thought-provoking questions that sparked meaningful discussion.

The forum, held this Wednesday 1 October at the Palais de Justice, was attended by students, teachers, and members of the National Council for Children (NCC), led by CEO Mrs. Yasmin Umarji. Special thanks go to San Finesse from the NCC team and Sasha Marivel, Public Relations Officer of the Judiciary, who also moderated the session. Students also had the opportunity to visit a courtroom, adding a practical learning experience to the day.

This initiative, a partnership between the Judiciary and NCC, is already showing results: children are becoming more curious about justice, their rights, and future career paths in law - with many eager to return for more.

## Festival Kreol

Members of our team represented the Judiciary at the "Salon Lengwistik ek Savwar Kiltirel" at the ICCS Seychelles for Festival Kreol on Tuesday 28 and Wednesday 29 October. We took this opportunity of being close to members of the public to speak about the Family Tribunal and the types of cases it can hear, given that topics of child custody, family property, family disputes, and related issues are common in the community.

Judiciary staff also put on their best florals and cultural attire to enjoy typical Kreol dishes and dancing at their own event held on Friday 31 October at the Palais de Justice. There was music, Kreol ambiance, and lots of smiles as staff bonded and made memories at this yearly event that celebrates what makes Seychelles so unique.





## Judges on the International Scene

Chief Justice Rony Govinden led a delegation comprising of Supreme Court Judge Brassel Adeline, and Director of Legal Affairs Mr. Lionel Garrick to participate in the 4th International Legal Symposium of the Conference of Constitutional Jurisdictions of Africa (CCJA) with the theme "Constitutionalism and State Building in Africa", held in Ethiopia from 27-30 November 2025. Discussions focused on how jurisdictions in the region can work to overcome challenges of ethnic and regional divides, weak institutions, corruption, and impunity.



The Chief Justice, Rony Govinden, has been recognised by the South East Africa Chief Justices' Forum (SEACJF) for his outstanding contribution to promoting the rule of law and strengthening judicial cooperation within the region. The award was presented during the SEACJF Annual General Meeting & Conference held in Botswana in October 2025. Supreme Court Judge Brassel Adeline accepted the award on behalf of Chief Justice, Rony Govinden.



Honourable Justice Samia Andre, a Justice of the Court of Appeal of Seychelles, has been elected as a Judge of the First Instance Division of the COMESA Court of Justice. Her election took place during the 27th Meeting of COMESA Ministers of Justice and Attorneys General on 21 November 2024 in Lusaka, Zambia.

Additionally, the International Commission for Dispute Resolution ONLINE (ICDRO) has announced through its Council and President, James Corbett KC, of the appointment of Justice Andre as Deputy President (Hon.) on Tuesday 18 November 2025. Justice Andre will be supporting the ICDRO mission to advance alternate dispute resolution policies in states and corporations, as well as broader activities.

## Collaboration with Department for the Elderly & Disabled

A landmark collaboration between the Judiciary and the Department for the Elderly & Disabled has been launched to improve access to legal aid and judicial services for some of Seychelles' most vulnerable citizens. The initiative, which includes the introduction of informative brochures and specially trained agents, aims to guide elderly and disabled individuals in navigating the legal aid process.

The event marked a key milestone with the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between the Chief Justice and the Principal Secretary for Family

Affairs, Mr. Mike Morel. A significant feature of the agreement is the implementation of a Fast Track Card, which will grant priority access to court premises and services for elderly and disabled individuals.



## Judiciary e-Service Platform Launch

We officially launched our new Judiciary e-Service Platform, marking a significant milestone in our commitment to modernising court processes and improving access to justice through digital transformation. This first phase, launched on 26 November 2025, allows Attorneys to make electronic written submissions in their cases, and we hope to roll out more features in a second phase.

The system aims to reduce long queues, minimise travel time, promote paperless processes, and allow users, especially lawyers, to engage with the Judiciary more efficiently.

The launch included a live demonstration of the platform's functionalities by Mr. Marcos Nyamanga, the Software Analyst from Switch – the company the Judiciary hired to create the platform. During the Q&A session, lawyers and other stakeholders asked a number of practical questions, particularly regarding user registration, document upload processes, payments, and future expansion of services. Their engagement reflected strong interest and readiness to adopt the new platform.



## LEGAL TRAINING

### Cybercrimes and Electronic Evidence

A Commonwealth Symposium on Cybercrime and Electronic Evidence was hosted at the Supreme Court in March 2025 for Judicial Officers to engage in insightful discussions and training on this critical subject, ensuring that our legal system continues to evolve in response to the digital age. Speakers included Legal and Policy Expert Zahid Jamil, cybersecurity expert Dr. Bright Gameli, and Her Ladyship Justice Afia Serwah Asare- Botwe, Justice of the Court of Appeal of Ghana.

This event was organized jointly between facilitators Dr. Nkechi Amobi, the Senior Research Officer in the Rule of Law Cyber Unit at the Commonwealth Secretariat, and Emma Beckles, Programme Officer, Rule of Law, Commonwealth Secretariat in collaboration with our own Head of JUCOS Judge Melchior Vidot, our Director for Legal Affairs Mr. Lionel Garrick, and our Head of Public Relations Ms. Sasha Marivel.



Policy Expert, Dr. Zahid Jamil



Her Ladyship Justice Afia Serwah Asare- Botwe



Dr. Bright Gameli



### Judicial Colloquium on Maritime Crimes

This event was organised by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), Regional Office for Eastern Africa, and was held in Mombasa, Republic of Kenya, from 17 to 21 November 2025. The training was attended by the Director of Legal Affairs, Magistrate Gonthier, and Judicial Research Counsels, together with judicial officers from across the region.

The programme focused on transnational crimes committed in the maritime context, including piracy, trafficking of illicit substances, and the smuggling of migrants, with particular emphasis on the application of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS). The colloquium addressed issues of maritime jurisdiction, prosecution of offences at sea, and the role of domestic courts in enforcing international maritime law. It provided a platform for judicial dialogue and the exchange of regional experiences and best practices in addressing complex maritime and transnational criminal matters.



### Cybersecurity and Public Trust: Law Enforcement's Role in Defending Democratic Spaces

A workshop organized by the U.S. Embassy in Victoria was held on 23 July 2025 and was attended by Judicial Research Counsels representing the Judiciary of Seychelles. The session brought together stakeholders from law enforcement agencies, anti-corruption institutions, digital security bodies, and the judiciary to discuss emerging cyber threats, misinformation, and their impact on public trust and democratic stability.

The workshop focused on institutional responses to cybercrime and misinformation, inter-agency coordination, and strategies to strengthen resilience in protecting democratic spaces. It contributed to increased awareness and capacity building within the Judiciary in addressing digital threats and safeguarding public trust.





### Training on Strengthening National Mechanisms for Reporting and Follow-Up to Human Rights Mechanisms

Judicial Research Counsel, Ms. Danielle Coetzer, attended a five-day capacity-building training held from 28 July to 1 August 2025, facilitated by the Department of Foreign Affairs of Seychelles in collaboration with the Regional Office for Southern Africa of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights. The training formed part of national efforts to strengthen Seychelles' National Mechanism for Reporting and Follow-Up (NMRF) in preparation for reporting to United Nations human rights treaty bodies and the Universal Periodic Review (UPR).

The Judiciary is currently participating in the drafting of Seychelles' UPR Report, which is scheduled to be presented at the United Nations General Assembly in May 2026. Participation in this training strengthened the capacity of the Judiciary to contribute effectively to the reporting process and enhanced its institutional ability to support Seychelles' engagement with international human rights mechanisms and compliance with its reporting obligations.



### Consultative Workshop on the Voluntary National Review and the Sustainable Development Goals

Judicial Research Counsel, Ms. Danielle Coetzer, attended consultative workshops held on 14 March 2025 and 27 May 2025, convened by the National Planning Department, Ministry of Finance, National Planning, and Trade as part of the preparatory process for Seychelles' second Voluntary National Review on the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals, which was published in July 2025 following its presentation at the United Nations High-Level Political Forum.

The workshops formed part of Technical Working Group 2 on Governance and focused on Sustainable Development Goal 11 on Sustainable Cities and Communities and Sustainable Development Goal 16 on Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions. The discussions centered on assessing national progress, identifying challenges, and sharing institutional experiences relevant to governance, access to justice, the rule of law, and institutional strengthening. Particular emphasis was placed on inclusive stakeholder consultation and the integration of institutional data and qualitative inputs into the national reporting framework.



## CONCLUSION – THEME FOR 2026

In 2025, the Judiciary continued the process of consolidating upon its goals as set out in its Strategic Plan 2021 – 2025, the major focus of which, as always, is effective, timely and transparent justice delivery. This entailed the continuous review of the Judiciary's processes and procedures; the facilitation of efficient and cost-effective access to justice through the use of technology; easing of the courts' procedures through the integration of ADR mechanisms; and facilitating the ease of doing business through the establishment of a specialized Commercial Court.

In 2026, the emphasis will be ensuring that the judicial environment continues to be one which enables the individual judge and the institution to be independent, impartial and accountable. In other words, focus will be on continuing to ensure the Judiciary's institutional and individual integrity. Justice, fairness and equity is achieved through active and persistent human effort, not passivity. This is captured in the quote from the abolitionist minister, Theodore Parker, echoed by the Reverend Martin Luther King Jr: that – "The arc of the moral universe is long, but it bends toward Justice".

The promotion of the Judiciary's institutional and individual integrity requires the active effort of all within the institution. That moral universe, which is sustained by the Rule of Law, requires our consistent efforts to keep the proverbial arc bending towards Justice. Hence the Judiciary's theme for the year 2026: **"Upholding the Rule of Law with Integrity"**.



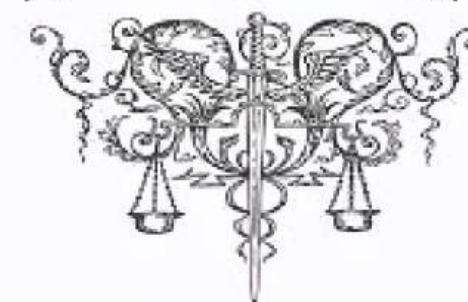


NOTES

*Upholding the Rule of Law with Integrity*



FIAT JUSTITIA  
RUAT CAELUM



"Let justice be done  
though the heavens fall."





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