



CHIEF JUSTICE  
SUPREME COURT OF LIBERIA



JUDICIAL BRANCH  
TEMPLE OF JUSTICE  
MONROVIA, LIBERIA

### JUDICIAL ORDER # 7

WHEREAS the Constitution of Liberia (1986), at Article 75, vests in the Supreme Court of Liberia the authority and power to prescribe rules deemed by the Court as necessary to facilitate and properly discharge the functions of the courts in the Republic; and

WHEREAS, consistent with the said authority, section 21.3 of the New Judiciary Law vests in the Supreme Court the power of fiscal administration of all financial matters relating to the Judiciary; and

WHEREAS, Section 21.6 of the New Judiciary Law, under the caption "Deposit of Fees, Costs and Other Revenue Collected by Courts", states:

1. *Courts costs, fees, fines, etc.* The Supreme Court is hereby empowered to fix from time to time by rules and regulations all fees, costs, and per diem for clerks of courts in civil actions, magisterial courts, justice of the peace courts, allowance of costs to prevailing parties represented by counsel in civil actions, witness fees, marshal fees, sheriff fees, juror fees, and any other fees, costs, and per diem it deems proper and reasonable, taking into consideration the present circumstances of the country. All such fees, costs, per diem shall be published by the Supreme Court and posted at each court in the Republic, the same to take effect and be applicable no sooner than a period of three months from the date of publication of the same.

2. *Deposit of Funds.* All such fees, fines, and costs shall be collected by the Judiciary and deposited into the account of the Judiciary, and the Minister of Finance shall be informed of the deposits such that the amount so deposited shall, from time to time, be deducted from the approved quarterly budgetary appropriations"; and

WHEREAS, all of the above vest authority in the Honourable Supreme Court to determine upon the deposit of all fees of all courts in the Republic of Liberia; and





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**WHEREAS, Article XIII of the Act Establishing the Commercial Court provides that the Commercial Court shall be financed from (a) annual financial appropriations for the Judiciary, and (b) twenty-five percent (25%) of the filing fees paid for processes brought before the Commercial Court; and**

**WHEREAS, the Commercial Court is part and parcel of those courts constituting the Judicial Branch of Government headed by the Supreme Court; and**

**WHEREAS the Supreme Court has determined that the allocation of the twenty-five percent (25%) of the filing fees to be paid for processes brought before the Commercial Court was not designed to be operated under the exclusive control or supervision of the Commercial Court or to not affect the constitutional authority of the Supreme Court to control the fiscal administration of the courts of Liberia, including the Commercial Court; and**

**WHEREAS the Supreme Court has the duty to ensure that full accounting and accountability of all fees and other revenues coming into all courts of the Judiciary, in respect of the budget, and as stipulated by the Judicial Financial Autonomy Act, and from which budget the Commercial Court is financed.**

**NOW, THEREFORE, exercising the authority and powers granted under the Constitution and aforementioned other laws in vogue, and to provide consistency in the reporting and budgetary process, it is hereby ordered:**

- (a) That all fees of whatever nature, falling under the purview of the Commercial Court, shall be deposited directly into a special account controlled by the Judiciary, the same as with fees from other courts, which shall be supervised by the Court Administrator. Consequently, the Commercial Court shall collect no fees directly or maintain any accounts directly other than as specified herein.**
- (b) That the twenty-five percent (25%) filing fees required to be paid for the processes brought before the Commercial Court, as provided by the Act Establishing the Commercial Court, having been ordered deposited directly into a special account managed by the Judiciary Administration,**





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the Commercial Court shall submit to the Court Administrator of the Supreme Court all requests for purchases for the smooth and speedy operation of the Commercial Court, each request being supported by appropriate documents. The Court Administrator is authorized to expeditiously service such requests of the Commercial Court from the mentioned 25% filing fees stipulated in the Act establishing the Commercial Court.

This Judicial Order shall take effect on the date of approval of the Supreme Court appearing hereunder.

GIVEN UNDER OUR HANDS THIS 9TH DAY OF  
NOVEMBER, A. D. 2017.

FRANCIS S. KORKPOR, SR.  
CHIEF JUSTICE, SUPREME COURT OF LIBERIA

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