

# Justice Yuoh's Ascendancy as Chief Justice Symbolizes Promotion of Gender Equality

---Justice Minister Frank Musa Dean



The Minister of Justice & Attorney General of the Republic of Liberia Frank Musa Dean described the ascension of Her Honor Sie-A-Nyene G. Yuoh as the third female Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of Liberia, as tremendous progress the

Country has made in promoting gender equality over the past years.

Minister Dean speaking Monday, October 10, 2022 at program marking the seating of the new Chief Justice and the formal opening of the October A.D. 2022 Term of the honorable Supreme Court of Liberia said, it is worth noting that women are now found in highest decision making positions in the government thereby breaking the barrier between male dominance in highest position of trust. Most importantly, laws have been strengthened to end violence against women.

“The rape law, the children’s law and the domestic violence law are all being vigorously enforced. There is now a gender section in almost every ministry and agency of government. The proposed 30% gender quota in the Legislature will soon be signed into law,” Minister Dean stated.

Cllr. Dean who is also the Dean of the Supreme Court Bar, welcomed Chief Justice Yuoh and her colleagues (Associate Justices) and welcomed their renewed commitment to continue to dispense justice without fear and favor.

According to him, lady Justice is blindfolded, symbolizing that justice should be rendered without passion and prejudice.

The Minister: “we commend your readiness to continue to treat all parties appearing before you equally without regard to status, whether rich or poor.

He said, since Liberia acceded to the United Nations Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, the country has made tremendous impact in promoting gender equality.

He asserted that justice actors are encouraged by Chief Justice Yuoh pronouncement against filibustering by lawyers and clients to procrastinate cases and frustrate the end of justice.

The Minister noted that while procedures are important, as they govern disposition of matters, they should not be unduly preferred over substance.

He added that the practice of filing unnecessary motions or resorting to remedial processes to delay justice or hang justice must be discouraged.

Minister Dean said, “the practice of filing frivolous suits should be condemned, denied and finally eliminated. To end this, we should consider compensation for the prevailing party who is strenuously subjected to a frivolous suit. Our courts are not hustle grounds.”

The Minister pledged the support and cooperation of the Executive Branch of Government, noting that it has been said that Montesquieu’s concept of separation of power does not imply antagonistic exclusivity.