



Judge Banwon Appeals For Retroactive Pay

The assigned Circuit Judge of Criminal Court “A” at the Temple of Justice, His Honor D. Onesimus Banwon, is appealing to the government to ensure Judges get their retroactive salaries owed by the Government of Liberia.

Judge Banwon appealed on Monday, August 10, 2026, at the opening of the First Judicial Circuit Court of Montserrado County, which consists of Criminal Courts Assizes A, B, C, D & E.

The Judge also commended the increase in budgetary allocation to the Judiciary and praised coordination among the three branches of Government, describing such cooperation as important to making justice accessible, affordable, and equally applicable to all.

However, he strengthened the call to appeal to the Executive Branch, through the Ministry of Finance and Development Planning, to expedite the payment of retroactive salaries owed to judges and magistrates.

He said the action would strengthen the performance of judicial actors and contribute to the effective administration of justice.

Meanwhile, Judge Banwon also expressed concern over the slow pace of criminal proceedings and the overcrowding of inmates at the Monrovia Central Prison, particularly due to the large number of pre-trial detainees. He urged prosecutors to bring cases to trial only when they are prepared and called on defense lawyers to avoid unnecessary delays, while encouraging judges to actively manage their dockets while safeguarding the constitutional right to a speedy trial.

“With the authority vested by the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of Liberia, His Honor Yamie Quiqui Gbeisay, Sr., I, formally declared the August 2026 Term of the First Judicial Circuit Criminal Assizes “A,” “B,” “C,” “D” and “E” open for the transaction of legal business.” He concluded