



OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC PROSECUTIONS

PRESS STATEMENT

INQUIRY INTO ALLEGATIONS OF ILLEGAL LAND POSSESSION IN MERU COUNTY BY MR. JOSHUA GATIMU IGWETA

The Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions (ODPP) received an inquiry related to allegations of illegal land possession involving parcel **Meru/Akaiga/1405** by **Mr. Joshua Gatimu Igweta**, the former ambassador of the Republic of Kenya to the Islamic Republic of Iran.

Upon completing the investigations, the Directorate of Criminal Investigations (DCI) submitted the inquiry file to our office for perusal and consideration.

The investigations revealed the existence of two parcels of land namely: **Parcel No. Meru/Akaiga/1405** and **Parcel No. Meru/Akaiga/4522**, both originating from Meru/Akaiga/381.

- **Parcel No. Meru/Akaiga/4522** is registered to Igweta Itaru (deceased).
- **Parcel No. Meru/Akaiga/1405** is registered to M'Mwithimbu M'arachi.

Parcel No. Meru/Akaiga/1405 was transferred to **M'Mwithimbu M'arachi** by **Igweta Itaru**, and **Joshua Gatimu Igweta** (the suspect) is currently in illegal possession of it.

In 2019, **Joshua Gatimu Igweta** obtained another title for **Parcel No. Meru/Akaiga/4522** in his name, even though a title in the name of **Igweta Itaru** still existed.

The Director of Public Prosecutions (DPP) has therefore made a decision to charge Mr. Joshua Gatimu Igweta with the following offenses: -

1. **Forcible detainer**, contrary to Section 91 of the Penal Code.
2. **Obtaining land registration by false pretenses**, contrary to Section 320 of the Penal Code.
3. **Intermeddling with property of a deceased person**, contrary to Section 45(1) as read with sub-Section (2)(a) of the Law of Succession Act.

The Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions (ODPP) remains committed to executing its constitutional mandate in accordance with the rule of law and further, with due regard to the public interest, the administration of justice, and the prevention of abuse of the legal process.

**PUBLIC AFFAIRS AND CORPORATE COMMUNICATIONS
DIVISION**

Dated: 25th July 2024