



REPUBLIC OF KENYA



COUNCIL OF LEGAL EDUCATION

# NEWSLETTER

A publication of CLE  
February 2026

18TH EDITION



## Features:

- The CLE Explainer
- Stakeholder Engagements
- CLE Bulletin
- Behind the Scenes
- CLE in the Media





REPUBLIC OF KENYA



COUNCIL OF LEGAL EDUCATION

# EDITOR'S NOTE

## Setting The Standard

Advancing Quality Legal Education and Training in Kenya

17TH EDITION



Welcome to this edition of the newsletter, where we highlight key milestones, engagements, and initiatives shaping legal education and professional training in Kenya.

In this issue, we share updates on institutional audits, stakeholder engagements, strategic partnerships, and important information for Advocates Training Programme candidates. These updates reflect ongoing efforts to enhance transparency, strengthen institutional processes, and support candidates navigating key professional milestones.

We remain grateful to our partners and stakeholders whose continued collaboration supports the advancement of quality legal education.

We hope you find this edition informative and engaging. We welcome your feedback at [communications@cle.or.ke](mailto:communications@cle.or.ke)





REPUBLIC OF KENYA



## COUNCIL OF LEGAL EDUCATION

# THE CLE EXPLAINER

## Recognition of Foreign Qualifications in Law: Your Pathway to Practice in Kenya

By Moses Muchiri

All persons holding foreign qualifications in law who wish to join the Advocates Training Programme in Kenya must apply to the Council for recognition of their foreign qualifications. This step is mandatory and cannot be skipped.

To apply for recognition and approval of foreign law qualifications, you must submit ALL of the following documents.

### 1. Complete Application Form

Applicants must create an account on the CLE application portal under the SLSC tab of the CLE website, log in, and complete the prescribed application form with accurate information in all required fields.

### 2. Payment Receipt

Evidence of payment of the application fee (KShs. 10,000). Your application will not be processed without proof of payment.

### 3. Degree Certificate

Certified copy of your LL.B. Degree certificate. Important Note: Letters from the university confirming degree award, provisional certificates, or statements of results will NOT be accepted in place of the actual degree certificate.

### 4. Academic Transcripts

Certified copy of your complete LL.B. transcripts showing all courses taken and grades achieved throughout your law degree program.

### 5. Curriculum Documentation

Certified copy of the LL.B. curriculum/syllabus from your degree-awarding institution, showing the courses and content covered in your law program.

### 6. High School Certificates (Critical Requirement)

Certified copies of ALL high school qualifications, with specific additional requirements depending on where your qualifications were obtained.

### 7. Letter of Recommendation

A letter recommending you from the institution where your law qualification was obtained. This should be on official letterhead and signed by an authorized university official.

### 8. Accreditation Evidence

Proof that the law program where your qualification was obtained is accredited by the relevant accreditation body in the country of award. This ensures the institution is recognized and meets quality standards in its home country.

### 9. Additional Qualifications

Any other relevant documents such as Diploma in Law or Certificate in Law/Legal Studies, where applicable. If you hold such qualifications, include certified copies.

### How to Apply

Applications can be submitted through two convenient methods:

- 1. Online Submission:** Lodge your application through the Directorate's Service Portal
- 2. Email Submission:** Download the application form, complete it with all supporting documentation and proof of fee payment, and submit to the Council by email to [gcl@cle.or.ke](mailto:gcl@cle.or.ke)



# THE CLE EXPLAINER

## 8 Reasons for Rejection of Applications for Recognition of Foreign Law Qualifications

By Moses Muchiri



**Missing KNQA equation statement** for foreign high school qualifications



**Submitting university letters** instead of actual degree certificates



**Incomplete transcripts** that don't show all courses and grades



**Missing payment receipt** or incorrect payment amount



**Failure to include all high school certificates** (both O-Level and A-Level where applicable)



**Missing letter of recommendation**



**Missing accreditation evidence**



**Incomplete application** form with blank required fields

### Final Tips to Avoid Delays and Secure Smooth Processing

-  Begin gathering documents months before you need recognition
-  Double-check and triple-check your details before submission.
-  All certificates and transcripts must be properly certified by the issuing institutions.
-  If you have foreign high school qualifications, obtain your KNQA equation statement before applying to CLE.
-  Submit your application early before your intended ATP enrolment.
-  Maintain copies of all submitted documents for your records.
-  If CLE requests additional information, respond quickly and completely.



## COUNCIL OF LEGAL EDUCATION

# AUDIT TIME!

## Council of Legal Education Conducts Audit at Chuka University



**CLE Team and Chuka University Team during the audit exercise**

### By Wambui Njoroge

The Council of Legal Education conducted an institutional audit at Chuka University as part of the renewal process for the Bachelor of Laws (LL.B) programme training licence.

The exercise forms part of CLE’s statutory mandate under Section 8 of the Legal Education Act, Cap 16B, which requires the Council to regulate, license, and supervise legal education and training institutions in Kenya.



**CLE Team interacting with law students during the audit exercise**



**CLE Team auditing Chuka University Moot Court**

The exercise was conducted by the Directorate of Standards, Licensing, Supervision, and Compliance, led by Ms. Annah Konuche, reviewing programme implementation, faculty capacity, learning resources, governance, and compliance with the regulatory framework for legal education in Kenya.

Institutional audits and programme evaluations are a key part of CLE’s quality assurance framework, ensuring legal education institutions uphold standards that support a credible and globally competitive legal profession.



# STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT

## CLE Connects with Future Legal Professionals at UoN Career Fair & Expo

by **Wambui Njoroge**

The Council of Legal Education participated in the University of Nairobi Faculty of Law Career Fair & Expo 2026 held at the Parklands Campus from 26–27 February 2026 under the theme “Shaping Future Lawyers for Local Relevance and Global Competitiveness.”



**Day 1: CLE staff engaging a law student at the Expo.**

Through its exhibition booth, CLE engaged with law students and stakeholders, providing information on legal education standards, professional training requirements, accreditation of legal education providers, and the regulatory framework governing legal education in Kenya.



**Prof. Collins Odote (right) with CLE Staff at the Expo**



**Day 2: CLE staff engaging a stakeholder at the Expo.**

The event brought together students, legal practitioners, regulators, and industry partners for keynote addresses, panel discussions, and mentorship sessions aimed at preparing students for the legal profession. The keynote address was delivered by Ambrose Otieno Rachier, Senior Counsel.



**Ambrose Otieno Rachier, Senior Counsel (centre) receiving a gift from CLE staff**

Throughout the event, CLE staff engaged students through career guidance discussions, information sharing, and one-on-one interactions, helping them better understand CLE’s role in regulating legal education and upholding quality standards in the training of legal professionals in Kenya.

# STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT

## CLE Strengthens Partnership with HELB to Support Bar Examination Candidates

by **Wambui Njoroge**

The Council of Legal Education continues to strengthen strategic partnerships aimed at expanding access to legal education and professional training in Kenya, in line with the CLE Strategic Plan 2023–2027.

As part of this commitment, the CLE Chief Executive Officer, Jack Mwimali, held a consultative meeting with the Higher Education Loans Board (HELB) to discuss the Bar Examination Loan (BEL) a critical financial support initiative designed to assist candidates undertaking the Bar Examinations.



**CLE and HELB Team during the consultative meeting**

The meeting was attended by Ms. Annah Konuche, Director for Standards, Licensing, Supervision and Compliance at CLE, and Mr. Duncan Nalwenge, Assistant Director, Finance and Accounts. The discussions focused on strengthening collaboration to enhance awareness and access to the BEL facility among law graduates preparing for the Bar Examinations.

The Bar Examination Loan (BEL) is specifically designed to support students undertaking the Advocates Training Programme at the Kenya School of Law, helping ease the financial burden associated with the Bar Examinations.



**Prof. Jack Mwimali, CLE CEO, with Mr. Geoffrey Monari, HELB CEO, during the consultative meeting**

Through this partnership, CLE and HELB are working together to ensure that financial constraints do not hinder qualified law graduates from progressing to professional legal practice.

CLE encourages eligible students at the Kenya School of Law to apply for the Bar Examination Loan (BEL) through HELB as part of ongoing efforts to support successful completion of the Advocates Training Programme and entry into the legal profession.

### DID YOU KNOW?

- ✓ 2,148 candidates have benefited
- ✓ Supports ATP students at Kenya School of Law
- ✓ Open to both salaried & non-salaried applicants

# CLE BULLETIN

## CLE CEO Participates in KEBS CB 2026 CEOs Breakfast Meeting

Council of Legal Education CEO, Prof. Jack Mwimali, participated in the Kenya Bureau of Standards (KEBS) CB 2026 CEOs Breakfast Meeting themed "Driving Business Excellence Through Management Systems: The CEO Imperative."

The forum offered valuable insights on effective leadership and the importance of implementing robust management systems to enhance organizational performance.



*CLE. CEO, Prof. Jack Mwimali during the breakfast meeting*

## CLE Holds Retreat on Job Evaluation and Development of Job Descriptions



*Public Service Facilitator guiding CLE Team during the retreat*

CLE convened a retreat on Job Evaluation and the Development of Job Descriptions in line with Government directives on public sector human resource management.

The retreat reviewed staff roles, aligned them with the Council's mandate, and developed standardized job descriptions to strengthen accountability, performance management, and institutional effectiveness.

## CLE Retreat Focuses on Workload Analysis and Organizational Efficiency

The Council of Legal Education (CLE) held a retreat on Workload Analysis to review staff responsibilities and assess the distribution of work across the organization.

The exercise aimed to ensure optimal allocation of duties, enhance efficiency, and strengthen institutional performance in line with government guidelines on public sector human resource management.



*CLE Team during the workload analysis retreat*



# COUNCIL OF LEGAL EDUCATION

## CLE BULLETIN

### Shared Voice, Shared Vision: Communication Strategy Retreat

The Council of Legal Education convened a strategic retreat to review its Communication Policy and develop a comprehensive Communication Strategy aimed at strengthening institutional communication and stakeholder engagement.

The retreat reviewed existing communication frameworks and identified strategic measures to enhance both internal and external communication in support of the Council's mandate.



CLE Team during the Communication Retreat

### Stay Connected with the Council of Legal Education

**COUNCIL OF LEGAL EDUCATION**  
**CONNECT WITH CLE ON OUR DIGITAL PLATFORMS**

SAVE COMMENT LIKE SHARE

Facebook: clekenya  
 TikTok: @cle\_kenya  
 Instagram: cle.kenya  
 X (Twitter): @cle\_kenya  
 Phone: 0719 150 000  
 Website: www.cle.or.ke  
 YouTube: CouncilofLegalEducation  
 Email: info@cle.or.ke, support@cle.or.ke

CLE invites stakeholders to connect through its official digital platforms for timely updates, regulatory notices, and information on legal education in Kenya. Follow, like, comment, and share to stay informed.

- Facebook: clekenya
- TikTok: @cle\_kenya
- Instagram: cle.kenya
- X (Twitter): @cle\_kenya
- YouTube: Council of Legal Education

### Know Your Timeline: ATP Gazettement Deadlines for Compliant Candidates

The Council of Legal Education (CLE) has released the gazettement timelines for compliant Advocates Training Programme (ATP) candidates to guide inclusion in the Kenya Gazette.

ATP Candidates are encouraged to take note of the quarterly submission deadlines and ensure all required documentation is submitted in time to facilitate smooth processing and gazettement.

#### GAZETTEMENT TIMELINES

It is notified for general information that the Gazettement of all Compliant Advocates Training Programme (ATP) candidates, as approved by the Council of Legal Education (CLE), will be gazetted within the following timelines:

S. No	Quarter	Quarter Dates	Deadline for Inclusion in the Gazettement List
1.	1 <sup>st</sup> Quarter	1 <sup>st</sup> July-30 <sup>th</sup> September	31 <sup>st</sup> August
2.	2 <sup>nd</sup> Quarter	1 <sup>st</sup> October-31 <sup>st</sup> December	30 <sup>th</sup> November
3.	3 <sup>rd</sup> Quarter	1 <sup>st</sup> January-30 <sup>th</sup> March	28 <sup>th</sup> or 29 <sup>th</sup> February (depending on the year)
4.	4 <sup>th</sup> Quarter	1 <sup>st</sup> April-30 <sup>th</sup> June	31 <sup>st</sup> May





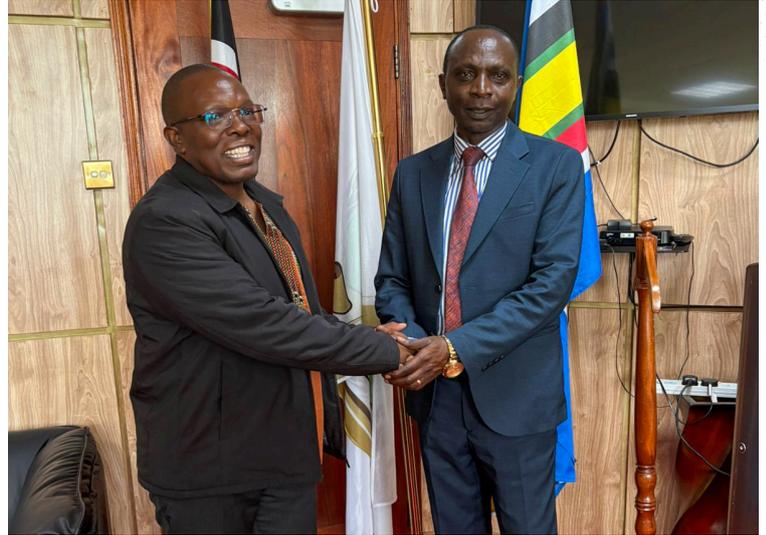
## COUNCIL OF LEGAL EDUCATION

# CLE BULLETIN

### CLE CEO Hosts Courtesy Visit from St. Joseph’s Boys National School, Kitale

Prof. Jack Mwimali, Secretary/CEO, Council of Legal Education received a courtesy visit from Mr. Cosmas Nabungolo, Chief Principal of St. Joseph’s Boys National School, Kitale.

The meeting focused on consultative discussions regarding an upcoming career fair at the school aimed at promoting awareness of legal education and training among students. Prof. Mwimali, a proud alumnus of St. Joseph’s Boys National School, expressed his enthusiasm about participating in the event and inspiring aspiring lawyers during the career fair.



**Prof. Jack Mwimali, Secretary/CEO, CLE (left) with Mr. Cosmas Nabungolo, Chief Principal of St. Joseph’s Boys National School, Kitale.**

### CLE Hosts University of Eastern Africa, Baraton for Consultative Engagement



**CLE and UEAB Teams during the courtesy visit**

The Council of Legal Education Team, led by the Chief Executive Officer, Prof. Jack Mwimali, and Ms. Annah Konuche, Director for Standards, Licensing, Supervision and Compliance, received a courtesy visit from representatives of the University of Eastern Africa, Baraton (UEAB) at the CLE offices.

The meeting focused on consultative discussions on the licensing process for Legal Education Providers in Kenya, as guided by the Legal Education Act, Cap. 16B.

### CLE Invites Stakeholder Feedback on Service Delivery

CLE is committed to delivering quality and responsive services in line with its mandate.

To support continuous improvement, stakeholders are invited to share their feedback and experiences to help strengthen processes and enhance service delivery.

All responses will remain confidential and will be used solely to improve CLE services.



# BEHIND THE SCENES



*A thank-you cake shared with CLE Team during a retreat*



*A Cake-Cutting Moment with the Team at a Retreat*



*A Moment of Celebration with the Team*



*A Cake-Cutting Moment with the Team at a Retreat*



*Standing Together in a Time of Bereavement*

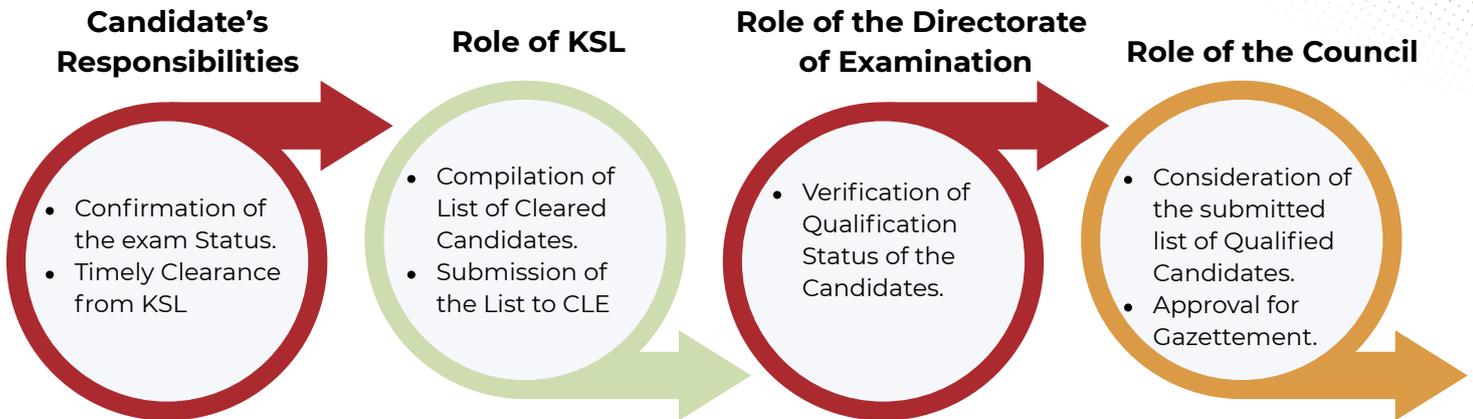


*Standing Together in a Time of Bereavement*

## COUNCIL OF LEGAL EDUCATION

### GAZETTEMET: MANY QUESTIONS, ONE ANSWER

by Peter Kipyegon



For any qualified ATP candidate and many a Council staff, there are fewer words, if any, that carry emotional weight and the operational rigor as gazettelement. Gazettelement is one of the lexica in Council's register, that has not only found its way into the dreaded annual performance targets but also, over time, evolved into a convoluted process that delivers both joy and anxiety, surprisingly in equal measure.

In fact, its mere mention is enough to send chills down the spine of even the most confident candidate and staff alike! More often than not, it connotes a labyrinth of interconnected procedures whose total hue begets an electric moment that snowballs across departments and divisions, spreading its tentacles and numerous subtle attendant demands and processes, far and wide. For the umpteenth time and in the new year, gazettelement continues to be the most rigorous processes that literally and truly tests the limits, keeping everyone at Council on their toes.

If it is not to promptly answer the flood of related inquiries that jam Council's switchboards, remember every call has to be received on the third ring, then it is the numerous onomatopoeic knock-knock on the office doors, the excuse me moments, all of which herald the surge in the walk-inns, which seldom show neither mercy nor an iota of respect to the official service charter timelines, for they are intermittent and excruciatingly day long and punctuated by the certainty of at least one high profile walk-inn at the oddest hour of the day and like everyone before them, armed with one simple, short, yet loaded question: Has my name been submitted?

And yet, beyond the ringing phones, the impatient footsteps in the corridors and the loaded questions whispered or boldly declared, gazettelement remains what it ought to be—a testament to process, diligence and institutional integrity.

It is where preparation meets validation and anticipation meets official recognition. Gazettelement has sustained the camaraderie, forged over time and across the institution out of sheer coincidence and the necessity to conquer the resultant demands.

For the candidate, gazettelement represents the culmination of effort, sacrifice and silent hope. For Council staff, it is a reminder of the weight of responsibility entrusted to them—a duty to uphold standards, timelines and fairness in equal measure. It is demanding, yes. At times overwhelming. But it is also defining.

Perhaps that is why gazettelement continues to command such reverence and unease in equal proportion. It stretches patience, sharpens teamwork and reinforces accountability. In its intensity, it humbles; in its completion, it unites.

When the final confirmation is given—when the long-awaited answer becomes "Yes"—the tension dissolves into relief, the corridors grow momentarily quieter, and the institution, having weathered yet another storm, stands reassured in the knowledge that process, however complex, has once again prevailed.



# COUNCIL OF LEGAL EDUCATION

## GAZETTEMET: MANY QUESTIONS, ONE ANSWER CONT.'D

by Peter Kipyegon

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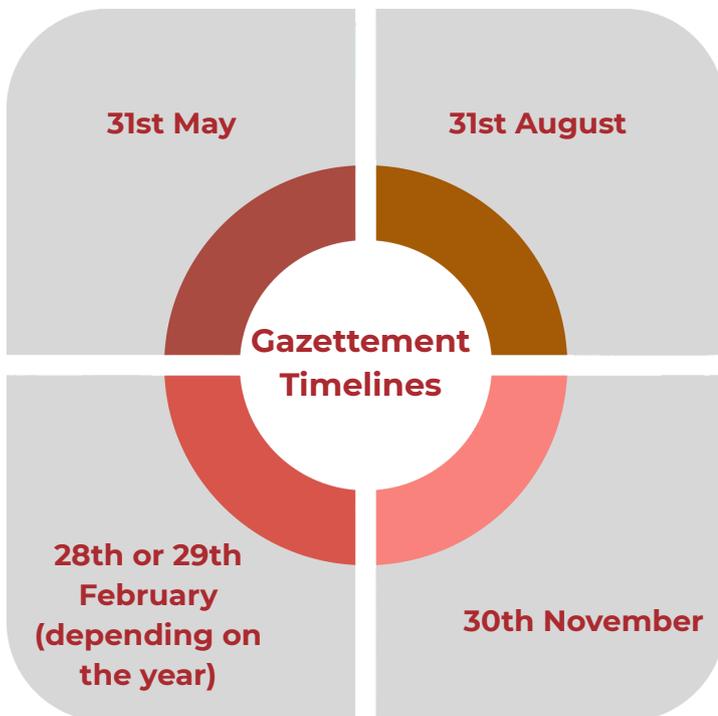
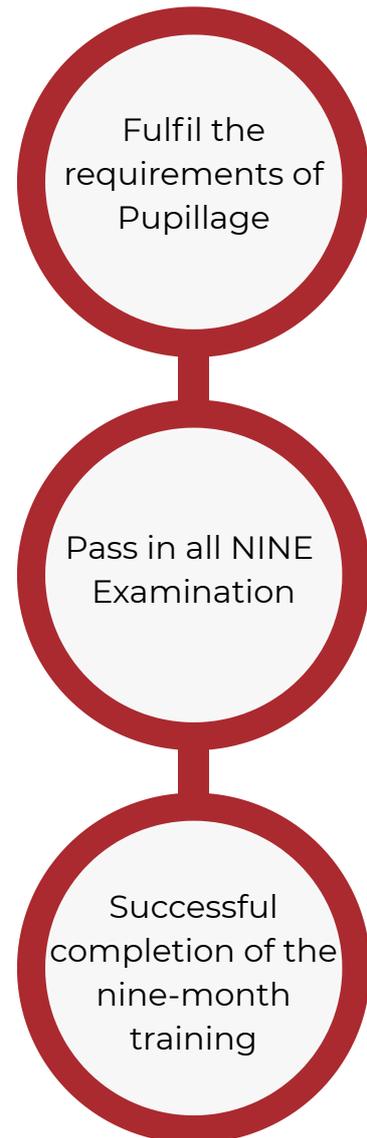
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### What Does it Take for One to be Gazetted?





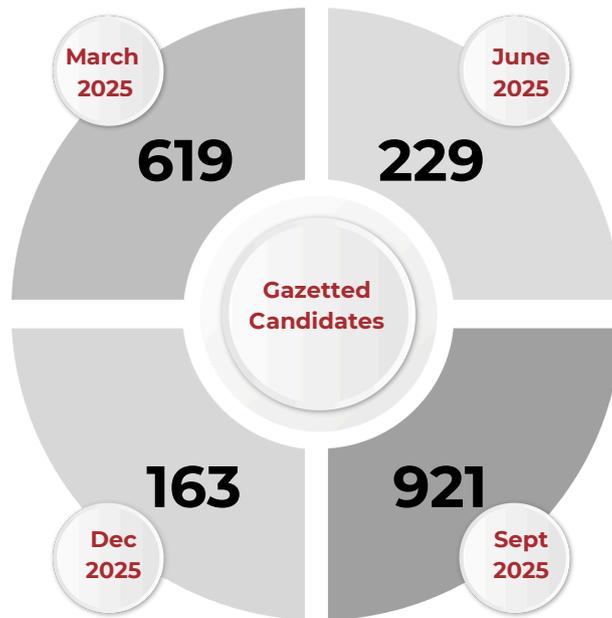
## COUNCIL OF LEGAL EDUCATION

### GAZETTEMET: MANY QUESTIONS, ONE ANSWER CONT.'D

by Peter Kipyegon

#### The Numbers that Tell the Story

Council continues to celebrate excellence by gazetting all qualified candidates every quarter. In the year 2025 alone, a remarkable 1,932 candidates were gazetted.



#### Encounters at CLE, does it Ring a Bell?

**Council Staff:** *(beaming with ceremonial warmth, hands neatly folded)* Happy New Year, sir. How may I assist you today?

**ATP Candidate:** *(clearing his throat nervously, adjusting his spectacles as he steps forward)*: Ah—good morning. My name is Karl Max. I am here to follow up on the submission of my name... for purposes of gazettelement.

**CLE Staff:** *(nodding thoughtfully, reaching for a file)* Karibu sana. Kindly provide your registration number.

**ATP Candidate:** *(scratching his head, eyes drifting upward as he struggles to remember)* Mh... mh... twenty twenty-five... thirteen...

**CLE Staff:** *(typing, pausing, then leaning closer to the screen)*: Yes. *(looks up)* CLE received your name vide letter KSL/Vol... *(a brief pause ensues)* Your candidature is currently under consideration for possible inclusion in this quarter's gazettelement list.

**ATP Candidate:** *(eyes widening, voice rising with uncontrollable excitement)*: Woah! *(laughs softly, then composes himself)* So... ah... yes—what happens next for me?

**CLE Staff:** *(smiling reassuringly, voice calm and official)*: Congratulations, Mr. Max. At this stage, all you need to do is wait as the CLE concludes its review. Should your name be approved, it will be published in the next Gazette Notice.

**ATP Candidate:** *(straightening his coat, chest lifting with pride, a broad smile spreading across his face)*: Asante sana. Truly. You have made my new day—and my new year.

**CLE Staff:** *(beaming, with a gentle nod)*: You're most welcome. Happy New Year once again, and all the best.

**ATP Candidate:** *(walking toward the exit, turning back with a grin, flashing the classic Gen-Z two-finger salute)*: Bye, madam.





COUNCIL OF LEGAL EDUCATION

# A CALL FOR FEEDBACK

## LEGAL EDUCATION ACT (Cap. 16B)

1. LEGAL EDUCATION (ADVOCATES TRAINING PROGRAMME) REGULATIONS, 2025
2. LEGAL EDUCATION (ACCREDITATION AND QUALITY ASSURANCE) REGULATIONS, 2025

Send your feedback to [legal\\_regulations@cle.or.ke](mailto:legal_regulations@cle.or.ke)



[www.cle.or.ke](http://www.cle.or.ke)



[clekenya](https://www.facebook.com/clekenya)



[@cle\\_kenya](https://www.tiktok.com/@cle_kenya)



[info@cle.or.ke](mailto:info@cle.or.ke)

The Council of Legal Education invites stakeholders to submit comments and feedback on two sets of proposed regulations developed pursuant to the Legal Education Act (Cap. 16B). The draft regulations aim to strengthen Kenya's legal education and training framework by enhancing standards for professional training, accreditation, and quality assurance.

The proposed regulations include:

1. **Legal Education (Advocates Training Programme) Regulations, 2025**
2. **Legal Education (Accreditation and Quality Assurance) Regulations, 2025**

These draft regulations have been published on the CLE website to facilitate stakeholder review and encourage broad participation in shaping the future of legal education in Kenya. CLE is seeking input from key stakeholders, including legal practitioners, law students, training institutions, universities, professional bodies, and members of the public.

Stakeholder engagement is an essential part of developing effective regulatory frameworks. Through this consultation process, CLE aims to ensure that the proposed regulations reflect practical realities, uphold high standards of legal training, and support the continued development of a competent and ethical legal profession in Kenya.

Stakeholders are encouraged to review the draft regulations and submit their written comments and feedback through email to [legal\\_regulations@cle.or.ke](mailto:legal_regulations@cle.or.ke).

CLE values stakeholder input and believes that collaborative engagement will help strengthen the regulatory framework governing legal education and professional training in the country.

**To read the regulations, scan the QR codes below**



# CLE in the Media

The Council of Legal Education CEO, Prof. Jack Mwimali, featured in the Weekend with the CEO Segment following a candid conversation with Eddy Ashioya on life beyond the office. The story was published on Business Daily, page 22.

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bdafrica.com

Life | Big read

Monday, February 16, 2026

Out and about

## Weekend with the CEO The bodybuilder executive with a weakness for sweets

### PROFILE EDDY ASHIOYA

*All roads led to teaching, even the ones Prof. Jack Mwimali took to escape it. The secretary and CEO of the Council of Legal Education is a summa cum laude product of teachers, the finest student of his mum and dad. Family genes are hard to shake off, he has learnt. Like, he was a naughty boy growing up, breaking his hand two, three times, in rugby, football, WrestleMania. He had hoped the gene missed his children, skipped a generation, but woe unto him. "In fact," he says. "In many cases, when I am mad and want to discipline my children, I see my younger self in them." He is a funny guy. But he is also a bodybuilder, something he has been doing since 1998. A strongman, you'd be forgiven to think he comes at the world with the 'full force of the law.' Forgiven, but wrong. Because underneath that giant patina is a reticent recluse; a man who prefers to do his own laundry, not a revolutionary act, but given the circumstances, perhaps a revelatory one: everything has to be the best in class.*

**It is often said that professors and academics are quite uptight, are you uptight, Prof?**

Haha! Perhaps. I may not be the best judge of my own character. But I believe I'm amiable and a good listener. That's probably what drew me to academia. To teach and impart knowledge, you also need feedback from the people you're interacting with; otherwise, you're just speaking to yourself.

**Tell me something cool about yourself.**

I'm a bodybuilder. I've been bodybuilding since 1998.

**Let's talk about your house of pain. What led you to bodybuilding?**

Two reasons. First, I was asthmatic and struggled with cold and certain allergens, so I went to the gym to develop my chest and improve my breathing. I also used to be a very rough boy when I was young. I broke my arm about four times, and it got very weak. I went to the gym to try to strengthen it.

**What's something most people don't know about bodybuilding?**

It requires a lot of discipline. At first, there's a lot of pain as your muscles adapt. But after a while, you feel you can't do without it. In fact, if you don't exercise, you feel lethargic and off the whole day. It's almost addictive.

**What's the hardest part about being a bodybuilder?**

When you wake up, and there's that lethargic feeling. And yet you know if you do not exercise for the next, four, five days, by the time you go back, you'll get those aches. You have to push yourself. But in most cases, after you have started, you pick up.

**How has your exercise regimen changed you?**

It has helped my concentration. Leadership and research require a lot of intensity, and working out relieves pressure and improves sleep. Secondly, just as a long and drawn-out research requires discipline, so does bodybuilding.

**Speaking of, Prof, what's your guilty pleasure?**

I have a sweet tooth [chuckles]. I eat a lot of sweets. In fact, if you get to a place where there are sweets, people will be surprised because I take a lot of

## Pleasure

'If you get to a place where there are sweets, people will be surprised...I take a lot'



Secretary and CEO of the Council of Legal Education Jack Mwimali. PHOTO: IPOOL

them. I literally chew on them. There was a time I used to go to the supermarket and buy a packet, and within a few days, they'd be finished, so I deliberately stopped buying them.

**What do sweets do for you? Did you have them a lot in childhood or you never had them at all?**

I'm not sure. Maybe it's because I didn't have many sweets growing up. I was raised in a very remote rural area in Trans Nzoia, near Saliwa Swamp.

**What do you miss about your younger self?**

Haha! I was very strong-headed. In

fact, I often see my younger self in Gen Zs. I was very argumentative. Grown up me is more pragmatic. I have to listen to and take the views of others.

**Is that why you gravitated to bodybuilding?**

Maybe. I would have played rugby. In fact, I once broke my arm when I was playing as a goalkeeper. When I caught the ball, it went with my arm. There was a time I was jumping a hurdle and landed on my arm and broke it. The third time was while wrestling. I was a naughty boy.

**Have any of the traits passed on to your children?**

Oh, a lot of them. In fact, sometimes when I want to discipline them, I remember my younger self. Once, I was marking exam papers and warned my son not to touch them. Of course, the warning excited him, and he doodled on one of the papers. I was furious, but when I looked at his face,

I saw myself. I just told him not to do it again [chuckles]. My daughter once abandoned her bike and insisted on riding her brother's, which was bigger. I warned her several times. She hit a tree and got injured. After the hospital visit, she still went back on the bicycle. That was me back in the day [chuckles].

**What's an aspect of fatherhood that surprised you the most?**

How humane it makes you. As a single person, you tend to think in terms of personal benefit. As a parent, you sacrifice and put your children first. As a hard-headed person, I never thought I could make sacrifices, especially for those tiny little people.

**What shortcomings from your father are you correcting with your own children?**

It's not a shortcoming, but my dad became a teacher in 1956, up to 1981 when he became an administrative chief. He was a disciplinarian par excellence. We thought he was unreasonable, but later realised he knew what he was doing. I have ways of dealing with my young ones, but not to the extremities of my dad, or mum, who was also a teacher from 1963 to 1998.

**But the teaching gene refused to skip you?**

I did everything not to be a teacher. By the time I turned 40, I looked back at what I had achieved in life, I surpassed them in academia, but my dad had 14 of us, and by the time he was 40, most of us were schooled. I was surprised how he had achieved that with a shoestring budget, and yet I, who earns much more than he did, was not able to do half of what he did.

**How has that shaped your relationship with money?**

I'm very poor at spending on myself. I'm frugal because I saw how my parents struggled and sacrificed. I can go to a big club and just have a good time by myself...but that childhood feeling that that is a waste of money persists.

**What's your worst money habit?**

I behave like women when it comes to shoes and bags. I have many shoes and bags.

→ eashioya@ke.nationmedia.com



## COUNCIL OF LEGAL EDUCATION

# Twenty-Eight Violet Days

By Peter Kipyegon

February,  
Etymologically Latin Februum,  
The second month—  
In the Julian and Gregorian calendars,  
With implied purification.

So when is your birthday?  
If February, then,  
You are lucky—  
Born alongside Abraham Lincoln,  
The 16th President of the United States of America.  
Born on February 12, 1809, in Hodgenville, Kentucky,  
Assassinated on April 14th, 1865, in Ford's Theatre,  
Washington, DC.  
Celebrated for his Emancipation Proclamation!  
Setting the stage for total abolition of slavery.

February is rich.  
Its zodiac signs are Aquarius and Pisces.  
Its flower, violet.  
Symbolizing piety, spiritual wisdom and sincerity.  
A month of transition,  
Marked by seasonal change:  
It signals the end of winter—  
in the Northern Hemisphere,  
While in the Southern Hemisphere,  
Summer still holds its ground.

In 2026,  
A common year,  
February's shorter:  
By a single day—  
Lasting only twenty-eight!  
But its nostalgia lives forever!





REPUBLIC OF KENYA



COUNCIL OF LEGAL EDUCATION

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