

MEDIA ADVISORY

Unisa to confer honorary doctorates on Chief Justice Raymond Zondo and Deputy Chief Justice Mandisa Maya

Approved for public release.

DATE: Tuesday, 26 September 2023

The top two judges of the Republic of South Africa, Chief Justice Raymond Zondo and Deputy Chief Justice Mandisa Maya will be conferred with honorary doctorates by the University of South Africa (Unisa) at separate graduation ceremonies to be held at the Unisa Muckleneuck Campus, Pretoria, this week.

This follows a decision of the Unisa Council on 29 June 2023, which resolved to award the degrees of Doctor of Laws (LLD) (*Honoris Causa*) to the two judges of the Constitutional Court in recognition of their sterling contribution to the legal profession in South Africa.

Chief Justice Raymond Zondo

For Chief Justice Zondo, the honorary doctorate will be conferred in recognition of the following:

- Demonstrated ethical leadership of the South African judiciary over decades of selfless service.
- Commitment to defending and maintaining the independence of the judiciary as an important arm of the state.
- Upholding the ethos and aspirations of a democratic South Africa as enshrined in the Constitution.
- Maintaining the rule of law and ensuring that justice is accessible to all members of society regardless of whatever standing.
- Mentoring and promotion of legal professionals, and according recognition to those with exceptional skills and qualifications.
- Commitment to ensuring equitable representation of the judiciary to reflect the country's national diversity.

The details of the graduation ceremony are as follows:



Date : Wednesday, 27 September 2023
Time : 18:00
Venue: ZK Matthews Great Hall, Winnie Madikizela-Mandela Building, Unisa Muckleneuck Campus, Pretoria

Deputy Chief Justice Mandisa Maya

For Deputy Chief Justice Maya, the honorary doctorate will be conferred in recognition of the following:

- Protection and promotion of the South African Constitution and the values enshrined in it.
- Maintenance of high standards in the development of jurisprudence excellence.
- Empowering and mentoring women in the judiciary and the broader legal profession.
- Ethical leadership and exceptional administrative skills exemplified by high ethical and moral standards.
- Consistent excellence of selfless human service throughout her legal professional life.

The details of the graduation ceremony are as follows:

Date : Thursday, 28 September 2023
Time : 18:00
Venue: ZK Matthews Great Hall, Winnie Madikizela-Mandela Building, Unisa Muckleneuck Campus, Pretoria

Members of the media are invited to attend and cover both graduation ceremonies.

–Ends–

For enquiries, please contact Senior Media Officers: Media Relations Tommy Huma on 072 218 6197 / 012 429 3981/ humatm@unisa.ac.za OR Edgar Rathelele on 063 731 5456 / 012 429 6712/ ratheme@unisa.ac.za

ISSUED BY THE UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH AFRICA – MEDIA AFFAIRS

