

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: 12TH MARCH 2024

ATTN: ALL NEWS EDITORS

PRESS STATEMENT: GOSPEL ARTISTE WILLIAM GETUMBE ARRESTED OVER 'INDECENT' CONTENT

The Kenya Film Classification Board (KFCB) through its North Rift Regional Office, Eldoret, and with the support of Police from Kapsoya Police Station have arrested and detained Gospel artiste William Getumbe over non-compliance with the Films and Stage Play Act, Cap 222 of the Laws of Kenya.

Getumbe's arrest comes after the lapse of a seven-day 'Demand Notice' issued to him for violating Sections 4 and 12 of Cap 222 governing the creation, possession, distribution and exhibition of audio-visual content in Kenya, specifically the creation, distribution, and exhibition of the blasphemous 'Yesu Ninyandue' music video, among others.

The artist will be arraigned in Court on Wednesday, 13th March 2024 to face the following charges:

- a) Filming without a license which contravenes Part II, Section 4 of Cap 222.
- b) Distribution and exhibition of unclassified audio-visual content in breach of Part III, Section 12 of the Cap 222.
- c) Distribution, public exhibition, and possession of 'obscene' cinematograph films and public exhibition of indecent shows/performances tending to corrupt morals contrary to Section 181 (1) (a) and (e) of the Penal Code.

The KFCB takes a strong stance against the creation, distribution, possession, broadcasting, and exhibition of 'indecent' content that goes against the values and morals of our society.

As the Government agency mandated to regulate film and broadcast content space within the country, the Board urges all content creators to create content that promotes Kenya's culture, moral values, and National aspirations, while ensuring that children are not exposed to inappropriate content. To this effect, the Board is collaborating with relevant platform owners to pull down the targeted content.

We also encourage members of the public to report to KFCB any instances of 'indecent' content distributed or exhibited via social media platforms and other broadcast channels for appropriate action to be taken. Further, the Board appeals to members of the public to desist from circulating inappropriate audio-visual content that the Board has flagged, as doing so will result in legal action.

The KFCB remains committed to ensuring a facilitative regulatory environment to spur the growth of the film industry in line with the Fifth Pillar of the Bottom-Up Economic Transformation Agenda (BETA) and the Talanta Hela Initiative, a flagship program of the Ministry of Youth Affairs, Creative Economy and Sports.

Nelly Muluka

Whiteles:

For: Ag. CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER