THE REPUBLIC 0F UGANDA INTHE COURTOFAPPEALOFUGANDA(COA)AT KAMPALA CIVIL APPLICATION NUMBER 0130 0F 2012 1. ASIIMWE DIANAJACKLINE } 2. HENRY MUGENYI APPLICANTS 3. STEVEN SERWADDA Vs. DR AGGREY **BEFORE:** HON. MR. JUSTICE. KENNETH KAKURU, JA Date: 31st July 2013 RULING: This is an appeal

by way of reference from а decision of The learned Assistant Registrar of this court to а single Justice of Appeal. There is no indication as under what law this appeal or reference has been brought. Ι presume it was brought under Rule 110 of the Rules of this court. The applicants in this matter were all the material time represented by

Mr. Eric Muhwezi and Mr. Latigo was for the respondent. Mr. Muhwezi practices in the name and style of MIS Muhanguzi, Muhwezi & Co.

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Advocates whose address is NIC building 2nd floor9 (Annex) Pilkington Road Ρ. 0. Box 7456 Kampala. At the hearing of this application, Mr. Muhwezi was absent. However one of his clients, the 3rd applicant Mr. Steven Serwadda was present in court. Mr. Serwadda informed court that his counsel Mr. Eric Muhwezi was indisposed and applied for an adjournment on that account.

Court declined to grant the adjournment as no sufficient cause had been shown. Mr. Serwadda himself an advocate was asked to proceed with the application as а party. Mr. Serwadda urgued grounds 1 & 2 of the Memorandum of Appeal together. Basically that the bill of costs was drawn and filed against 5 applicants whereas the

case was at all material times against only 3 persons namely; 1. Asiimwe Diana Jackline 2. Henry Mugenyi 3. Steven Serwadda Не urgued that Steven Karangwa and the Commissioner for Land Registration where not parties to the case and should not have been included in the taxation proceedings. 0n the second ground, he argued that the respondent had committed

contempt

of this court when they refused to obey the court order in Miscellaneous Application Number 135 of 2009 to deposit certificates of

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title in court but instead sold the two titles to avoid execution in High Court Civil Suit No.266 of 2009 from which the taxation proceedings on appeal in this court eventually arose. At the hearing of this application, court brought to the attention of Mr. Serwadda the fact that the order of the Assistant Registrar of this court which directed the

respondent in this matter Dr. Aggrey Kiyingi to deposit the said land titles was signed on 23rd day of November 2009. The application itself was heard on 20th **October** 2009.This was ascertained from the record filed in this court by the applicants. Court also brought to the attention of Mr. Serwadda the fact that his own Record of Reference at pages 37

and 40 contains copies of the said land titles, two of them. The record indicates that the said titles had been transferred from the names of Dr. Aggrey Kiyingi the respondent herein to those of one Mohammed Ssekatawa on 14th October 2009. Accordingly there is no way Dr. Kiyingi could have deposited titles in court which were no longer his property at the time

when the order was made. Upon realizing the above, Mr. Serwadda withdrew ground 2 of the Memorandum of Reference. In reply Mr. Latigo learned counsel for the respondent urgued that the learned Assistant Registrar correctly dismissed the preliminary objection raised at the taxation hearing. The objection that the proceedings were in respect of 5 applicants yet the parties to the

case were only 3, he urgued was made without any basis. Не contended that at all material times the parties to the application and appeal were five and not three.

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Не produced а notice of appeal in this matter to the Supreme Court that was prepared, drawn and filed by MIS Muhanguzi, Muhwezi & Co. Advocates. Ιt indeed indicates all the five applicants. Не also brought to the attention of court the order of this court from which the taxation proceedings emanated. The order is in respect of five

applicants, this order was also drawn and filed by MÍS Muhanguzi and Muhwezi Advocates of the same address. Both the order and the notice of appeal above mentioned were signed by Mr. Eric Muhwezi himself. Не prayed for the dismissal of the application. Since the 2nd ground ōf appeal was withdrawn, Ι will not dwell on It. suffice to say

that had the advocate been more deligent he would have ascertained that Dr. Kiyingi had transferred the property to the thirdparty before the application was heard and before the order was made. This kind of laxity by an advocate is unacceptable at this court Ground one of memorandum of Reference as already noted is also untenable. Counsel for the applicant himself drew

the order from which the taxation proceedings arose. The order named as applicants, 5 applicants and not З. In his own notice of appeal the advocate names five intended appellants. Ι do not understand how the same person could then insist that the matter was only in respect of three applicants. The Assistant Registrar in this matter was justified when

she dismissed the preliminary objection.

Ι find this application frivolous, а waste of court's time and abuse of court process. This is а matter in which costs should have been awarded against the Advocate inperson.Iwillnotdosonow. This application must therefore be dismissed, and it's hereby dismissed with costs. HON. MR.JUSTICE KENNETH KAKURU, JA 31sT JULY 2013