GOVERNMENT OF ZAMBIA

STATUTORY INSTRUMENT No. 12 of 2024

The Surbodinate Courts Act

(Laws, Volume 3, Cap 3)

The Subordinate Courts (Civil Jurisdiction) Rules, 2024

IN EXERCISE of the powers contained in sections 20, 21, 22 and 57 of the Subordinate Courts Act, the following Rules are made:

1. These Rules may be cited as the Subordinate Courts (Civil Jurisdiction) Rules, 2024.

2. The jurisdiction of a Subordinate Court in all personal suits whether arising from contract, or from tort or from both, where the value of the property, debt or damage claimed, whether as balance of accounts or otherwise is, where the court is presided over by a —

- (a) chief resident magistrate, not more than one million kwacha;
- (b) principal resident magistrate, not more than nine hundred thousand kwacha;
- (c) senior resident magistrate, not more that five hundred thousand kwacha;
- (d) resident magistrate, not more than three hundred thousand kwacha;
- (e) magistrate of the first class, not more than one hundred and fifty thousand kwacha;
- (f) magistrate of the second class, not more than one hundred thousand kwacha; and
- (g) magistrate of the third class, not more than seventy-five thousand kwacha.
- 3. The jurisdiction of a Subordinate Court of the first class in an action for the recovery for land is only to be exercised where—
 - (a) the value of the land in question is not more than one million kwacha;
 - (b) the rent payable in respect thereof is not more than two hundred and fifty thousand kwacha in a year; or

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(c) in case of a Subordinate Court presided over by a chief resident magistrate, principal resident magistrate or a senior resident magistrate, the rent payable in respect thereof is not more than five hundred thousand kwacha in a year.

Lusaka 22nd January, 2024 M. Malila, *Chief Justice*