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by Rex Wockner

Excerpt:

Ugandan gay activists win lawsuit

In a landmark victory, the High Court of Uganda ruled Dec. 22 that constitutional rights apply to GLBT people.

Activists Victor Mukasa and Yvonne Oyoo had sued the attorney general following a 2005 raid at Mukasa's home in which documents were seized and Oyoo was arrested, assaulted and sexually harassed. Mukasa was not present at the time of the raid.

Justice Stella Arach Amoko found that the raid violated the activists' rights to, among other things, liberty, privacy, dignity, and protection from unlawful entry, unlawful search, unauthorized seizure and inhuman treatment.

"The actions of the officials that molested Victor Mukasa and Oyoo were unconstitutional, inhuman, and should be condemned," Arach Amoko said.

"It was my dream that justice would come and it has come," Mukasa said after the ruling. "And it is my bigger dream that justice will come to every human being in Uganda who is oppressed. This does not mark the end. The struggle continues until every human being is free."

Assistance: Bill Kelley