MURANG’A COUNTY GAZETTE SUPPLEMENT

ACTS, 2015

NAIROBI, 29th June, 2015

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THE MURANG’A COUNTY SYMBOLS ACT, 2015
No. 2 of 2015
Date of Assent: 12th May, 2015
Date of Commencement: 29th June, 2015

ARRANGEMENT OF SECTIONS

Section

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THE SCHEDULE
THE MURANG’A COUNTY SYMBOLS ACT, 2015

AN ACT of the County Assembly to give effect to Section 4 of the County Governments Act, 2012 and for the development and use of the County flag, County coat of arms, County public seal and other symbols of the County government, to prevent the improper use of the County symbols and for connected purposes

ENACTED by the County Assembly of Murang’a, as follows—

PART I—PRELIMINARY

Short Title

1. This Act may be cited as the Murang’a County Symbols Act, 2015.

Interpretation

2. In this Act, unless the context otherwise requires—

"the County flag" means the type of County symbol developed under the authority of the County Executive through the consultative process provided for under Section 4 (1) (a) of the County Governments Act;

"the County Coat of Arms" means the type of County symbol developed under the authority of the County Executive through the consultative process provided for under Section 4(1)(b) of the County Governments Act;

"the County Public Seal" means the type of County symbol developed under the authority of the County's Executive through the consultative process provided for under section 4(1) (c )of the County Governments Act;

"the County Symbol" means any image, object, mark, sign emblem, pennant, insignia or ensign developed under the authority of the County Executive and shall include flag, County coat of arms and County seal;

"the County Executive Committee Member" means the County Executive Committee Member responsible for County Symbols;

PART II—PROHIBITIONS ON THE USE OF THE COUNTY SYMBOLS, OFFENCES AND PENALTIES

Prohibition Against Misuse of County Symbols

3. (1) County Symbols shall not be used except with the permission of the County Executive Member in a manner authorized by this Act or any other law.

(2) Any person who shows disrespect, in speech, manner or writing, to or with reference to any symbol of the County, specified likeness or
specified name, or any representation thereof, shall be guilty of an offence and shall be liable to a fine not exceeding two hundred thousand shillings or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding six months or to both.

(3) No person shall, except with the written permission of the County Executive—

(a) Use any symbol of the County or any imitation thereof in furtherance of, or display the same as an advertisement for any trade, business, calling or profession.

(b) Use any symbol of the County or imitation thereof, in the title of any patent, or in any trademark or design.

(c) Manufacture or import any article or goods bearing any symbol of the County or any title, trademark or design is used is used in contravention of this Act.

(4) A publication of a bona fide news item whether in a newspaper of any article connected with any bona fide news item other than a news item in the furtherance of, or as advertisement for, any trade, business, calling or profession shall, under this section, be lawful.

(5) No authority shall register any company, firm or other body of persons or any trade mark or design or grant a patent where such registration or grant of patent would violate the provisions of this Act.

(6) Any registration made or patent granted in violation of this Act shall be null and void.

(7) No person shall display at any place or on any premises or permit to be so displayed any item or imitation which was not developed as a symbol of the County in accordance with the provisions of this Act.

**Power of Seizure**

4. A police officer or an officer of the County government duly authorized in writing by the County Executive, may, upon obtaining a search warrant from the court, enter any premise where he or she reasonably believes something which has been used, displayed, manufactured or imported contrary to this Act is kept and seize the same and where he does so, shall bring it before the magistrate who issued the search warrant, for order of its disposal.

**Offences and Penalties Under the Act**

5. Any person who violates any provision of this Act shall be guilty of an offence and liable on conviction to a fine not exceeding fifty thousand shillings or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding twelve months.
PART V—MISCELLANEOUS

Power to Make Regulations

6. The County Executive Member may make regulations generally for carrying this Act into effect and may by notice amend the schedule to this Act—

(a) prescribing the occasions upon which, the persons by whom and the manner in which the County Flag may be flown and displayed, as the case may be;

(b) prohibiting, controlling or restricting the use of the specified emblem, specified likeness or specified name; and

(c) regulating the manner in which any application may be made to the County Executive Member for permission under the Act, prescribing the form of any license by which such permission may be given and fixing any fee for such application and license.
Flag ratio – 2:3 (the width is one and half times the length of the height).

The Logo, in full colour is superimposed on the flag. The colour codes for the logo remain as detailed.

The flag has bands in the following colours:
Black
White
Gold (Pantone DS 26-3C)
Green (Pantone DS 284–1C)

Key Description:
The overarching theme of the County symbol is anchored on the fact that Murang’ a is predominately an agricultural County with rich volcanic soils, abundant rivers and favourable weather in most parts of the County. The base of the emblem reflects the topological diversity of the County ranging from the flat low lying areas of Ithanga to the high mountain ranges of Aberdares.

The emblem also captures the main agricultural produce in the County, namely; coffee, tea, dairy, bananas, fruits and vegetables.

The rivers on the emblem depict the fact that the County has enormous potential to utilize the abundant water resources to improve agricultural production, primarily through irrigation farming instead of relying on unreliable rain fed agriculture.
The use of the shield is to reiterate the sovereignty of the Murang’ a County citizens and the commitment of the County Government to harness, protect and exploit the huge national resources for the benefit of all Murang’a citizens.

*The colors of the flag carry the following meanings:*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Color</th>
<th>Meaning</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>GREEN</td>
<td>Symbolizes the rich agricultural potential of Murang’a County. Most of Murang’a County is green, having a high forest cover. It also portrays rebirth and environmental friendliness.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GOLD</td>
<td>Gold is the color of success, achievement and triumph. It’s associated with abundance and prosperity. This underpins our slogan, “KAMUINGI KOYAGA NDIRI” which means “GROWING TOGETHER” which calls upon the Murang’a citizens to joins hands for the holistic development of the whole County.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WHITE</td>
<td>Signifies optimism, imagination, hope, philosophy, peace and friendship.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BLACK</td>
<td>Symbolizes our heritage, matching boldly towards our economic emancipation and empowerment. It also signifies the mainstay of Murang’a people which is coffee, the black gold, which made Murang’a famous in the 70s and 80s.</td>
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</tbody>
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PART II—THE COUNTY COAT OF ARMS

ELEMENTS

1. Oval Shield
The OVAL is a shield that symbolizes commonality of purpose, safeguard of our heritage, security, co-operation, vision, resources and the patronage of an entrepreneurial County.

2. Mortar and pestle
This device was used since ancient times to prepare ingredients or substances by crushing and grinding them into a fine paste or powder. This symbolizes the unity of the community.

3. River
Corresponds to the creative power of nature and time. Murang’a has the most rivers and water features. On the one hand it signifies fertility and the progressive irrigation of the soil; it also symbolizes boundaries and life.
4. Coffee Plant
Coffee bean represents the coffee, and the main economic activity of the Murang’a.

5. Tea Plant
The rich agricultural backyard of Murang’a which includes tea.

6. Ranges—They symbolize the geographical position of Murang’a County.

7. Horticulture—They symbolize the other agricultural economic activities of Murang’a County.

8. Dairy Cow—It is a symbol of the immense dairy farming and production in the County.

PART III—THE COUNTY PUBLIC SEAL