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## Justice Mayor Wadyajena

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**Mayor Justice Wadyajena** is a Zimbabwean politician and businessperson. He was elected to be the Member of Parliament (MP) of the Gokwe-Nembudziya constituency after the July 31st election of 2018 in which the [Zimbabwe African National Union-Patriotic Front](#) (Zanu- PF) won. He is the current Parliamentary Portfolio Committee Chairman on Lands, Agriculture and Rural Resettlement.

Justice Wadyajena



Born

Mayor Justice Wadyajena  
(1980-11-19) November 19, 1980 (age 38)

Nationality

[Bulawayo](#)

Education

Zimbabwe

Occupation

[University of Zimbabwe](#); University of London

- Politician
- Member of Parliament: Gokwe-Nembudziya.

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Employer	Government of <a href="#">Zimbabwe</a> , Mayor Logistics
Home town	<a href="#">Nembudziya</a>
Political party	<a href="#">Zimbabwe African National Union Patriotic Front</a>
Partner(s)	Rebecca Wadyajena

In June 2019, he made the headlines after purchasing a US \$400,000 Lamborghini. There was public criticism especially on social media with many accusing the Wadyajena of choosing an extravagant lifestyle at a time that Zimbabwe was facing one of its worst economic crises. It was also at a time when his party, Zanu-PF was pushing the "Austerity for Prosperity" message to the population.

## Background

Justice Mayor Wadyajena was born in [Bulawayo](#) on 19 November 1980, though his home area is Nembudziya, [Gokwe](#). He married his wife Rebecca at the age of 21 and together they have 4 children.<sup>[1]</sup>

## Education

He holds an MSc in International Relations from [University of Zimbabwe](#) and a BSc (Hons) degree. He is studying for a Bachelor of Laws (LLB) with University of London. Wadyajena has expertise in the following fields: ·Law-making and Public Policy ·Local interest and grassroots-level advocacy ·Public Finance Management ·Construction and Infrastructure Development ·Transport and Logistics ·Energy

## Certifications, Awards and Achievements

- Youth Assembly Outstanding Delegate, August 2016, UN - New York City
- Ranked 2nd, Zimbabwe's most influential Young Politicians (2016)
- Youth Assembly Delegate, February 2017, UN - New York City
- Youth Assembly Outstanding Delegate, August 2017, UN - New York City
- Founding Member of the Inter-Parliamentary Union - Young MPs (IPU-Geneva, 2014)
- Member of the Zimbabwe delegation to the Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU).

## Involvement in Politics

He joined [Zanu-PF Youth League](#) while he was in Secondary School following an opportunity to meet [Robert Mugabe](#), in 1995 whilst representing [Gokwe](#) North District at the age of 14. He rose from his district of Chinyenyetu, in Nembudziya, to his current position as Secretary for Administration, Zanu-PF Youth League, [Midlands Province](#).<sup>[2]</sup>

He claims that he rose through the ranks and this subsequently led to his election as the MP for Gokwe -Nembudziya in 2013. After filing his nomination papers for election to represent Gokwe – Nembudziya Constituency, he was duly elected in 2013 to serve as Member of Parliament of Zimbabwe. Wadyajena's bid for parliament was strongly supported by President [Emmerson Mnangagwa](#) and he became his mentor. [Flora Buka](#) had long been the MP for Gokwe-Nembudziya but as a result of the [Factionalism in](#)

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[Zanu-PF](#) 2014, Mnangagwa is said to have turned his back on Buka. Buka was reportedly aligned to the Mnangagwa camp but she later reportedly joined the [Joice Mujuru](#) camp.

Mnangagwa is said to have sponsored Wadyajena and he succeeded in the Primary Elections defeating Buka. Wadyajena won during elections and has since never shied away from vocalising his allegiance to Mnangagwa. He has reported that following his election to the 8th Parliament, he was appointed by the former President Robert Mugabe to serve as the Chairperson of the Parliamentary Portfolio Committee on Youth, Indigenisation and Economic Empowerment overseeing the operations of the Youth, Indigenisation and Economic Empowerment ministry. Through this role, he mentions that he fought to advance the interests of young people across the political arena.

As Chair, Wadyajena indicated that he took a stance on corruption leading to several clashes and altercations with the former principal of that ministry, [Saviour Kasukuwere](#). He also highlighted that he ordered [Patrick Zhuwao](#), (the then Minister of Youth and Indigenisation) out of parliament after being suspected to have shown up intoxicated. Despite these conflicts, Wadyajena believed that he successfully spearheaded a number of 'fact-finding missions', such as the Marange-Zimunya Community Share Ownership Trust probe, which culminated in a seminal report on the plunder of Zimbabwe's diamonds. The report made recommendations, including the investigation and possible prosecution of senior politicians, marking him as a 'fearless and true proponent of transparency and accountability'. He states that he also led the investigation into the disbursement of Youth Funds which unearthed abuse and stealing by the politically connected people at the expense of the youth.

## Business Interests

Wadyajena is the owner and founder of Mayor Logistics (Pvt) Ltd. As the owner and founder of Mayor Logistics (Pvt) Ltd, Wadyajena has significant interests in construction, transport and energy. He has been in private business since the age of 18, becoming a 'self-made millionaire'.<sup>[1]</sup>

## Involvement In

### Tax Evasion

In June 2014, Wadyajena was accused by the [Zimbabwe Revenue Authority](#) for evading to pay tax which amounted to over US\$3 million for his company, Mayor Logistics Pvt Limited (a company in the business of fuel and transport operations).<sup>[3]</sup> Wadyajena however vehemently refuted the claims arguing that he paid his taxes religiously and was up to date. He argued that it was the price for him to pay for establishing himself as a relentless pursuer of truth. This was mainly because the charges came after he had an argument with [Saviour Kasukuwere](#) over what his Parliamentary Committee deemed was the use of funds under the Youth Fund established to necessitate the indigenisation programme.

Wadyajena appealed to the [Constitutional Court](#) (ConCourt) to clear his name from being dragged through mud and in the face of this legal challenge the allegations whittled away.<sup>[4]</sup>

Wadyajena was been appointed by [Robert Mugabe](#) in September 2013 to be the Chairperson of the Parliamentary Portfolio Committee for Youth, Indigenisation and Economic Empowerment. He was thus

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accusing Kasukuwere of abusing the youth funds amid reports that it benefited those close to him including his brother [Tongai Kasukuwere](#).<sup>[3]</sup> Fearing for his life, Wadyajena wrote a letter to [Jacob Mudenda](#) explaining to him his ordeal highlighting that he was receiving death threats from Kasukuwere.<sup>[3]</sup> He also highlighted that, there were several attempts organised to silence him for his astute position on corrupt ZANU PF officials.<sup>[5]</sup>

## Maintenance Lawsuit

In 2013, Wadyajena's mother of his child, Wadzanai Mudare demanded US\$11 600 from Wadyajena to cater for their daughter.<sup>[6]</sup> Mudare explained that, Wadyajena regarded himself as a wealthy man who owns a haulage truck company, six states of the art personalised vehicles, a residential property in Borrowdale Broke and someone who could afford to send his three children to Heritage School paying US\$2 200 for each child.<sup>[6]</sup> Wadyajena denied all this arguing that Mudare was just making unsustainable and unfavourable demands. He appealed to the courts stating that in addition to the \$2 200 he was already paying for the child he was only able to pay \$300 a month for upkeep. The magistrates' court ruled that he was to pay US\$1 500.

Wadyajena then appealed to the [High Court](#) which heard that Wadyajena only discovered the existence of the child in 2012, following a chance meeting with Mudare. The child was already 10 years old. Mudare confirmed this fact and further affirmed that she and Wadyajena were never married nor had they cohabited. The High Court then set aside the lower court's decision, ruling that he was not guilty of neglect and was providing sufficiently for the child and therefore not compelled to pay anything to further. The case was later settled with Wadyajena re-assuming full custody of his daughter <sup>[6]</sup>

## Campaigning for Grace Mugabe in 2014

Wadyajena stood at the forefront as the only Zanu-PF youth who publicly campaigned for the elevation of [Grace Mugabe](#) when she went into mainstream politics after her nomination to lead the [Women's League](#) in 2014. He stated then that, the former First Lady was one of the few people who were capable of uniting the party and thus should not limit herself to the Women's League.<sup>[7]</sup> He was quoted saying, he did not want [Grace Mugabe](#) to end with her post in the Women's League but should even aim for the Vice Presidency.<sup>[7]</sup> Wadyajena also defended the First Lady's doctorate degree stating that she did her degree in silence and nobody knew that she was going to graduate with a doctorate unlike others who make noise about their issues.<sup>[7]</sup>

## Arrest for

- **Grace Mugabe Insult 2015**

At the December 2015 Zanu-PF conference held in Victoria Falls, Wadyajena was arrested for allegedly insulting [Grace Mugabe](#). He was accused of having insulted her by asking another party member, Jimayi Muduvuri, to remove her posters on his car and to have uttered some unprintable insults.

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A Zanu-PF disciplinary committee dismissed the allegations saying it did not understand why Wadyajena could have asked Muduvuri to remove the Grace Mugabe's posters from his car because Wadyajena was one of the first to put the posters on his vehicles including the one that he was using that day. Wadyajena, however, Wadyajena appeared in court.<sup>[8]</sup>

Wadyajena was acquitted of the charge of denigrating Grace Mugabe by a Victoria Falls resident magistrate on 12 January 2016.<sup>[9]</sup>

Following the Victoria Falls acquittal, Wadyajena was then arrested on three more occasions.

- **Letina Undenge Insult**

Letina Undenge, the wife of Energy and Power Development Minister [Samuel Undenge](#) laid charges of criminal insult in Victoria Falls, Gweru and Mberengwa, alleging the youthful MP had insulted her. She later withdrew all charges after failing to provide the court with any acceptable evidence

In 2016, Wadyajena went before a Zanu-PF disciplinary committee, following a recommendation by the Party's National Commissar, [Saviour Kasukuwere](#), for allegedly promoting the ascendancy of President Emmerson Mnangagwa to Vice Presidency. The allegations were later dismissed as factionalism related and Wadyajena was acquitted. It was later established that these accusations were false when the Zanu-PF disciplinary committee singled out the G-40 linked Makhosini Hlongwane, Tapuwa Matangaidze and Annastancia Ndhlovu of seeking to cause disharmony by having raised fabricated allegations with Kasukuwere that they were unable to substantiate.

## **Sakunda Lawsuit**

Justice Wadyajena was reported to have sued his former business partner Kudakwashe Tagwirei, the owner of Sakunda Holdings. However, Tagwirei challenged the lawsuit saying that Wadyajena had forced him to agree to a settlement through threats of extortion.

It was reported that when the two former business partners fell out Wadyajena initially filed a \$7 million lawsuit against Tagwirei. However, while the case was still pending at the [Supreme Court](#), Tagwirei was alleged to have approached President [Emmerson Mnangagwa](#), who was a vice president then, to mediate. As a result of Mnangagwa's efforts, the two came to an agreement in which the Supreme Court appeal was withdrawn in return for Wadyajena receiving \$2, 6 million. Tagwirei later paid Wadyejena \$616 334 but reneged on paying the remaining \$2 million resulting in Wadyajena's lawsuit in March 2018.

Tagwirei reportedly refused to pay the \$2 million and challenged the lawsuit saying that he had entered into the agreement under duress as there were threats of extortion.[Mnangagwa Named As Witness In \\$2 Million Lawsuit In Which Sakunda Owner Says He Was Extorted By Zanu-PF MP](#)

## **Trivia**

- Wadyajena rejected an official vehicle offered to him through the Parliament Vehicle Loan Scheme.<sup>[10]</sup>



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Wadyajena argued that he did not take delivery of that vehicle because that is not the reason why he was elected to office. [\[10\]](#)

He also serves on the Justice, Legal and Parliamentary Affairs Committee, as well as the Public Accounts Committee. Wadyajena affirms that he is one of the youngest, most vibrant, resourceful, visionary and energetic Members of the National Assembly of the Parliament of Zimbabwe and that His political ethos of servant leadership finds its roots in the long-held belief that ‘public servants ought to be servants first.’

## Important of \$400,000 lamborghini

Following his acquisition of a Lamborghini which he claimed had cost him US \$400,000, some prominent individuals on social media, among them [Hopewell Chin'ono](#) and [Temba Mliswa](#) asked if Wadyajena had paid import duty for the car. There was also public outcry especially from people opposed to the Zanu-PF governance who questioned the sincerity of the leadership's 'Austerity by Prosperity' message to the public. The car was imported at a time when Zimbabwe was undergoing one of the worst economic depressions of the last 4 decades.



Mayor Justice Wadyajena Lamborghini

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Wadyajena did not respond to the allegations that he had evaded paying duty. He, however, commented on Twitter that he "became a Milli in my early 20s, that yellow super machine is hard earned, legitimately too!" [\[1\]](#)

## About Pindula

Pindula is a place to find information about local things on the internet. We do it a lot like Wikipedia, except everything is hyper-local. We started work on Pindula because we needed something like it. There's so little useful information about local things online and we're working to change that

To join the Pindula community of editors, please go to <https://contribute.pindula.co.zw?> or just get in touch with us on **WhatsApp: +263 77 770 7852.**

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