

Headline **Zimbabwe arrests five US docs over licensing**
Date **13 Sep 2010**
MediaTitle **The Star**
Section **World**
Journalist **N/A**
Frequency **Daily**
Circ / Read **304,904 / 1,026,812**

Language **English**
Page No **W33**
Article Size **108 cm²**
Color **Black/white**
ADValue **1,961**
PRValue **5,882**



Zimbabwe arrests five US docs over licensing

HARARE: Five Americans who worked with AIDS orphans and patients in Zimbabwe have been arrested in the southern African country and accused of operating without proper medical licences, their lawyer said.

Attorney Jonathan Samukange yesterday identified one as Gloria Cox Crowell, who is chairman of an AIDS programme run by the Allen Temple Baptist Church in Oakland, California.

According to its website, the church supports the Mother of Peace Orphanage in Zimbabwe, a home outside Harare for children who have lost parents to AIDS and runs an AIDS clinic there.

Samukange said Cox Crowell and four other Americans were arrested late Friday along with a Zimbabwean doctor.

He said the six were accused of practising medicine in Zimbabwe without proper licences and of running a pharmacy without a pharmacist's supervision or a

pharmacist's licence.

He said they had proper licences and were only supervising a pharmacy that mainly gave out AIDS medications. A court appearance is expected today.

Samukange had identified all five as doctors but it was not clear that all were health workers.

A church official reached by phone in Oakland said she could not discuss the arrests.

A man who answered the phone at Cox Crowell's home in Oakland also declined to comment.

The church's website said its work in Zimbabwe began in 2000, when the late Robert C. Scott, an AIDS activist and doctor in the San Francisco area, and other church members attended an international AIDS conference in neighbouring South Africa.

They made a trip to Zimbabwe, and moved by what they saw at Mother of Peace, persuaded their church to support the orphanage. — AP