

## JUSTICE NDUBUISI OKEZIE

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### PERSONAL PROFILE

Well-rounded legal counsel with 7 years' experience in law practice in Litigation, ADR, Corporate and Commercial, Finance, Contracts, Capital Markets, and Tax. Also driven by the desire to providing creative solutions to complex legal problems and having a commitment to continually add value to self and surroundings with the goal to help corporates traverse their legal and regulatory hurdles. Currently seeking for opportunities to practice law, in-house.

### EDUCATION

**2014-2015** Nigerian Law School (Lagos Campus) Qualifying Certificate, with First Class Honours (in the top 6 of over 5000.)

**2015** Call to the Nigerian Bar

**2009-2014** Nnamdi Azikiwe University, Awka: Bachelor of Laws with Second Class (Honours) Upper Division. (Graduated in top 4 of a class of over 200.)

**2005-2007** Port Harcourt Polytechnic, Rumuola Port Harcourt: National Diploma in Law (Upper Credit (4.3)).

**1998-2004** Comprehensive Secondary School, Mgbuosimini, Rumueme Port Harcourt: SSCE.

### LEGAL EXPERIENCE

Associate at G. Elias & Co. November 7, 2016 – date.

My engagement cuts across the Commercial and Dispute Resolution departments at the Firm. However, I have worked on matters and transactions cutting across various practice areas, notable among them are:

- Advising AIICO on the acquisition of AIICO Pensions, by FCBM Pensions Limited.
  - Acting as counsel to a leading insurance company in Nigeria on private equity investment involving over ₦5bn.
  - Advised the Transmission Company of Nigeria on the Eligible Customer Regulation.
  - Advised a leading Development Finance Institution as lead arranger of a USD750mn on-lending facility to Nigeria's state-owned Bank of Industry.
  - Acting for Ossiomo Investments Ltd. in a suit against Unity Bank Plc to recover over ₦5bn debt.
  - Advising the Asset Management Corporation of Nigeria on its divestment from two of the leading airline operators in Nigeria.
  - Advised Citi on anti-corruption issues relating to all of its Nigerian Branches.
  - Acting for Nigeria's Asset Management Corporation on a number of suits for recovery of bad loans in excess of ₦9 billion arising in respect of the insolvency of airline operators in Nigeria.
  - Advised Natcom on Sale and Lease back of its telecommunication masts.
- Several Legal due diligence exercises on financing transactions, bond offerings, and projects.

- Advised Citibank on the CBN fine of circa USD9bn.
- Acting in defence of Ecobank entities in a suit involving sale of shares in Airtel Networks Limited.
- Currently handling a portfolio of 44 cases and transactions; cases (and ADR) especially for bank clients in trial and appellate courts; and transactions spanning across company secretaryship, energy, capital markets, financing transactions and undertaking due diligence exercises.

Associate at Solola & Akpana (Barristers and Solicitors) - January 19, 2016 – September 28, 2016.

Engaged mainly in litigation and general corporate advisory. I had countless court appearances at multiple levels of Courts and have also obtained favourable closure on several suits. I prepared court processes, formulate trial strategy, undertook research, legislative review, and tax advisory services.

NYSC at Rivers State Ministry of Justice, Department of Estate and Probate Administration December 14, 2015 till November 4, 2016 - my responsibilities include providing assistance to the Departmental head in interviewing both applicants for, and holders of letters of administration, general secretarial duties, legal opinions and participation in community development service.

Intern at Aalex Solicitors, Port Harcourt - September 1, 2013 to December 20, 2013. Responsibilities included:

- research
- court filings
- due diligence
- drafting advisory memoranda

Litigation Clerk: F.F. Sada & CO, 88 Ikwerre Road, Port Harcourt - August 1, 2011 to October 31, 2011. Responsibilities included research and clerical duties.

Extern: Federal High Court, Port Harcourt Division; Court 3 presided over by Honourable. Justice O. Agomoh. Observed Court proceedings and attended a workshop on the procedure for court filings and advocacy.

Extern: Chief Ladi Rotimi Williams & Co - April 14, 2015 to May 28, 2015. Skills acquired includes, advocacy skill, legal analysis, legal drafting, regulatory compliance and client interview.

## **EXTRACURRICULAR**

Presiding Judge: Unizik Faculty of Law Moot Court during the 2013/2014 Legal (Academic) year.

Member, Nigerian Law School 2014/2015 Law clinic: Engaged in the brainstorming and research contingent working towards the production of 'the Eko Law series'.

Participant: Lagos Public Interest Law Partnership Pro bono week held at the Office of the Public Defender, Lagos which involved providing free legal consultancy services to indigent members of the general public.

## **MOOT AND MOCK**

Lead counsel for the defence: 2015 Nigerian Law School Mock trials held on August 18, 2015 and obtained the winner's prize.

Co-counsel: Nnamdi Azikiwe University Legal Team at the University of Nigeria, Enugu Campus 2014 National Moot and Mock Competition in which my team took the prize for winner.

## **RESEARCH**

Judicial Oath Taking for Public Officers- An imperative for Good Governance in Nigeria; being an LLB project in partial fulfilment of the requirements for the award of Bachelor of Laws from the Nnamdi Azikiwe University, Awka.

## **PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT**

2018 – LMA Documentation Training

2018 – PWC Business School – Introduction to Companies Income Tax

2017 – Commercial Law Services – Workshop on Pleadings, Written Addresses and Legal Opinions.

2016 – Chartered Institute of Arbitration (UK) – Entry Course in Arbitration

## **SKILLS AND ABILITIES**

- Proficient in Microsoft Office Suite.
- Excellent interpersonal skills.
- Good written and spoken communication.
- Public speaking.
- Team player.
- Proficiency in American/English Sign Languages.

## **PERSONAL DETAILS**

Nationality: Nigerian

State of Origin: Abia

Local Government Area: Bende

Gender: Male

Date of Birth: October 7, 1989

Marital Status: Married

## **HOBBIES**

Reading, soccer and photography.

## **AWARDS**

Nigerian Law School - Director General's Prize for Attaining the First Class Grade at the Bar Finals Examinations of the October Entry Class of the 2014/2015 Academic Year.

Nnamdi Azikiwe University - Faculty of Law Certificate of Merit for service as a Judge of the LAWSA High Court for the 2012/2013 Legal Year.

Best Student in Criminal Law, the Common Law of Torts and Oil and Gas Law, Nnamdi Azikiwe University class of 2014.

## **REFERENCES**

Will be made available upon request.