



# ALLIANCE LAW FIRM

## FIRM'S PROFILE

SEP 2025

We are a full-service law firm  
with a depth of proven experience and  
experience in Corporate Commercial  
transactions and dispute resolution

## **ABOUT THE FIRM**



**ALLIANCE LAW FIRM**



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## WELCOME NOTE

**ALLIANCE LAW FIRM** is a dynamic partnership registered under the laws of the Federal Republic of Nigeria.

With a seamless blend of industry-recognised partners, consultants and other lawyers, operating from three offices spanning 3 key commercial centres of Lagos, Abuja and Port-Harcourt, Nigeria, our capacity to provide value-added legal services to our clients needs has seen our stock in the industry grow considerably. We offer our clients the broadest mix of cognate skills and depth of expertise drawn from decades of experience in corporate commercial transactions (both local and cross-border) and dispute resolution. Our up-to-date awareness, participation in local, international commercial developments, and technology enables us to adopt forward-facing approaches to legal issues referred to us. The Firm is focused on constantly seeking ways of improving its suite of offerings with a view to constantly aligning its legal solutions with clients' commercial objectives.

The Firm has been ranked amongst the notable law firms in Nigeria. The 2015 edition of the International Financial Law Review ("IFLR") 1000 currently recommends the firm in its "Financial and Corporate" category. The firm is also recognised as a "Recommended Law Firm" in the 2014 and 2015 editions of IFLR 1000 and received the 2014 ESQ / Legal Blitz Award for the "Corporate Restructuring Firm of the Year". It was voted as the Business Law Firm of the Year in Nigeria in 2012, by the Corporate International of the United Kingdom. Some Partners in the Firm have been ranked by Chambers Global. The firm won the ESQ award for the best Banking and Finance team in Nigeria and the Best Dispute Resolution practice in Nigeria for the year 2021.

In 2008, the firm was conferred with the award of "The Finest Capital Market Legal Consulting Firm in Nigeria" at the West African Direct Marketing Awards. The firm has also been recognized as one of the most integrity-driven organizations in Nigeria by major national newspapers, such as The Guardian, Thisday, and Business Day. It has also been acknowledged by the World Bank/ ITF as a notable contributor to their global Doing Business Guide publications for several years.



**ALLIANCE LAW FIRM**

## **OUR VISION**

**To become a world class, full  
service law firm**



## **OUR MISSION**

**To provide premium legal services  
professionally and optimally  
leveraging skilled workforce  
and technology**



## **CORE VALUES**

**Integrity, Trust, Confidentiality,  
Professionalism, Dynamism and  
Teamwork**



**ALLIANCE LAW FIRM**

## **PRACTICE AREAS**

As a full-service commercial law firm, we have the following distinct practice groups:

- Banking and Finance / Fintech
- Capital Market, Investments, Mergers & Acquisition, Anti-Trust
- Corporate Debt Recovery & Insolvency and Restructuring
- Corporate Commercial
- Energy and Mineral Resources (Oil, Gas, Power & Environmental)
- Intellectual Property, Media, Entertainment & Technology (IMET)
- Infrastructure, Project & Real Estate
- International Trade
- Litigation, Arbitration (Domestic and International), Mediation and Administrative hearing
- Shipping, Maritime, Aviation
- Tax and Transfer Pricing

The firm has a dedicated company secretarial subsidiary Alliance Corporate Secretaries Limited (“ACSL”), which provides company secretarial and nominee services ensuring that all its clients are aware of and comply with their respective reporting and compliance.

The firm has developed a Doing Business in Nigeria practice Manual that helps foreign and local start-ups organize and operate lawfully and efficiently in Nigeria.

## **OUR TEAM**



**ALLIANCE LAW FIRM**

# PROFILE

**Uche Val Obi, SAN, FCI Arb**

**Managing Partner**

uche.obi@alliancelawfirm.ng

Uche, a Senior Advocate of Nigeria, is the founding Principal and Managing Partner of Alliance Law Firm with over 30 years' cognate practice experience. He is deeply versatile and remarkably combines commercial advisory with formal training in law and business management. His wide-ranging experience is constantly brought to bear in the resolution of clients' issues. His listening skills, professional calmness, forensic and risk-based management approach largely account for his admirable reputation of simplifying and proffering solutions to complex issues thereby adding value professionally.



Indeed, he is ranked as a Top Lawyer by Chambers 500; and as Leading Lawyer in the IFLR 1000. He has been listed amongst the integrity-driven professionals in Nigeria by the major newspapers - including The Guardian and Thisday. In addition, he has won several local and international awards testifying to his versatility and professionalism.

He has been a notable contributor to the IMF/World Bank Doing Business Guide publications, and the author of Class Actions in Nigeria - a pioneer local book on the subject in Nigeria. He is a prolific writer in different areas of the law with over 20 peer reviewed publications in articles and contributions to books in various areas of the law in addition to papers and commentaries at local and international conferences and seminars. He is the author of 'Class Actions In Nigeria' published by MIJ Publishers (2015) which is the pioneering textbook in that area of the law in Nigeria. He has served on a number of ministerial and regulatory committees and as a resource person to the CBN's Financial System Strategy (FSS) 2020 Directorate. He was the co-lead at the legal sub-group comprising the Nigerian Capital Market Lawyers and representatives of the Law Society of England and Wales, that worked under the Emerging Capital Market Task Force Initiative (ECMTI) which is a collaboration of the United Kingdom's Foreign and Commonwealth Office and the Nigerian Capital Market stakeholders to facilitate cross-border capital market transactions between the United Kingdom and Nigeria.

Uche is a commercial transaction solicitor, litigator and arbitrator in the areas of: Banking & Finance, Capital Market, Energy, Oil & Gas, Mergers Acquisition, Insolvency and Receivership, Telecom, Intellectual Property, Fintech, Shipping, Maritime & Aviation, Real Estate & Infrastructure, Projects, International Trade, Corporate Commercial, Legal Audit & Due Diligence, Corporate Governance & Doing Business Advisory, and has advised on and litigated a number of notable domestic and international Transactions.

Over the last three decades, he has regularly appeared extensively at the Supreme Court, Court of Appeal, Federal High Court, National Industrial Court, States High Court Tribunals and International Financial Centers, a number of which are reported in the major law reports. He is also a notable domestic and international mediator and arbitrator with vast experience in proceedings conducted under the institutional and ad-hoc Rules of ICC Paris London Court of International Arbitrators, London Maritime Arbitrators, American Arbitrators Association (AAA), UNCITRAL, Arbitration and Conciliation Act, Regional Center For International Commercial Arbitration, Lagos Multi-Door House, Lagos Court of Arbitration, et al. He has also routinely represented clients at various Administrative Hearings including the SEC, CBN, Bankers' Committee, NSE, National Assembly, Trademarks Tribunal, NAFDAC, IAP, DPR, FIRS, EFCC, ICPC, Ministries, Departments and Governmental Agencies and Authorities.

He is a Paul Harris Fellow of the Rotary International.



## **PRACTICE AREAS**

- Energy and Mineral Resources (Oil, Gas, Power & Environmental)
- Banking and Finance / Fintec
- Capital Market, Investments, Mergers & Acquisition, Anti-Trust
- Corporate Debt Recovery & Insolvency and Restructuring
- Shipping, Maritime , Aviation
- Intellectual Property, Media, Entertainment & Technology (IMET)
- Infrastructure, Project & Real Estate
- Corporate Commercial
- Tax and Transfer Pricing
- International Trade
- Litigation, Arbitration (Domestic and International)

## **EDUCATION**

- Harvard Executive Business School (2013) - (Leading Professional Service Firms)
- University of Lagos (LL.M, 2004)
- Abubakar Tafawa Balewa University (MBA, 2001)
- Nigerian Law School (BL,1992)
- Imo State University (LLB Hons, 1991)

## **PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIP**

- International Bar Association (IBA)
- Nigerian Bar Association (NBA)
- Capital Market Solicitors Association (CSMA)
- Nigerian Gas Association
- International Trademark Association
- Intellectual Property Lawyers Association Nigeria
- Chartered Institute of Arbitrators, United Kingdom
- American Arbitrators Association
- Institute of Direct Marketing of Nigeria (Fellow)
- Financial Reporting Council of Nigeria
- Rocky Mountain Mineral Law Foundation
- International Law Association (ILA)
- Fin Tech Association of Nigeria





- Nigerian Institute of Chartered Arbitrators (Fellow)
- Institute of CManagement Consultants of Nigeria (Chartered)
- Financial Reporting Council of Nigeria (FRCN)
- NCC – Accredited Panelist for Resolution of Disputes
- CAC - Accredited Insolvency Practitioner

## **PROFESSIONAL POSITIONS HELD**

- Former Chairman, International Trade Law Committee, NBA Section on Business Law
- Former Chairman, Capital Market Solicitors Association
- Board Member SEC Investors Protection Fund (2013 – 2015)
- Member, Editorial Board of Capital Market Solicitors Association Quarterly News Review
- Member, National Technical Committee on the Implementation of E-Dividend in Nigeria
- Member, Committee for the Revision of SEC Rules of the Administrative Proceedings Committee
- Member, Capital Market Master Plan Committee
- Nigerian Coordinator of the United Kingdom Foreign and Commonwealth Office Emerging Capital Market Project comprising UK Lawyers of the Law Society of England and Wales and Nigerian Lawyers
- Member, Committee on Arbitration, International Law Association
- Member, DPR Mediation Panel for Resolution of Oil & Gas Dispute

## **AWARDS & RECOGNITION**

- Top Lawyer by Chambers 500
- Leading Lawyer in the IFLR 1000
- Distinguished Alumnus of the University of Lagos





## **A. TRANSACTIONS & ADVISORY EXPERIENCE**

### **BANKING & FINANCING**

- Advised Neconde Energy Limited as borrower on a \$470 million Reserved Based Lending (RBL) from an syndicate of Lenders local and foreign Lenders for acquisition refinancing and funding of a re-entry programme of major oil block. Also advised on an upsize of the facility to \$720 Million.
- Advised an Energy Company on a \$640 million mid-term Corporate Loan facility from a club of lenders.
- Advised a major Telco ("9-Mobil") on its \$400 million mid-term loan facility from International Finance Corporation.
- Advised a borrower on its US \$1.2 billion global refinancing and restructuring of facilities owed by over 20 entities in the group with 8 major banks.
- Advised a borrower on its \$950 million long term financing under an FTSA of a producing acreage with over 2 billion proven reserves of crude oil.
- Advised an EPCM contractor on its \$1.1 billion financing for the execution of a 45-kilometer pipeline NCTL project for SPDC / NNPC JV.
- Acted as Nigerian Counsel to Standard Chartered Bank London on its \$150 million corporate loan facilities to a Nigerian Commercial Bank.
- Advised on a \$350 million real estate financing for the development of a multi-storey certified green office complex in Victoria Island, Lagos.
- Advised Dansa (an affiliate of Dangote Group) on its \$40 million facility from an international lender with a guarantee of a local Bank.
- Advised a Nigerian Bank on its financing and security structure for two aircraft acquisition transactions.
- Advised a borrower on the acquisition of \$50 Million credit facility for the acquisition and development of Dry Dock facility in Nigeria.
- Advised a borrower on the acquisition of \$250 Million facility for the acquisition of a majority stake in an oil producing asset in Nigeria.
- Advised a borrower on a N40 Billion facility for the acquisition of a stake in a blue chip Nigerian entity.

### **CAPITAL MARKETS, M & A & ANTI-TRUST**

- Advised Seplat Energy Plc on its global IPO and dual listing of its \$550 Million shares on the London and Nigeria Stock Exchanges.
- Transaction Solicitor to Neconde Energy Limited (SPV/Consortium) in its \$585 Million acquisition of 45% participating interest in OML 42 from SPDC, TEPNG, and NOIC.
- Advised Transcorp Hotels Plc on its tranching N30 billion fixed rate bond issuance programme.
- Advised Nigerian Mortgage Re-financing Corporation on its N28 billion private placement of shares.
- Acted as transaction Counsel in a N45 billion private placement of an integrated oil and gas service Company.
- Advised an energy Company on its £350 million acquisition of a UK listed oil and gas Company and the requirements for compliance with the Nigerian FCCP Act.



- Transaction Solicitor and due diligence adviser to ACB International Bank in its merger transaction with five other Banks to form Spring Bank Plc (part of Heritage Bank).
- Advised Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) on the merger transaction and post - merger adjustments disputes amongst legacy banks.
- Advised a Bank on the divestment of its five subsidiaries and sale of its ICT subsidiary through a Management Buyout.
- Advised NOLCHEM (Conoil) on the NNPC and Shell Trading Company divestment of their 80% interest, sell of 51% shares to a core investor and 29% to the public through an offer for sale under the BPE's first phase of privatization programme.
- Advised on a Commercial Note transaction that successfully raised \$50 Million for project collaboration in the Energy sector.
- Advised on the acquisition of a large engineering yard measuring approximately 55 hectares in Port- Harcourt, Rivers State, including the 30-billion financing for perfection, land reclamation and development projects thereon.
- Advised on the purchase and perfection of about 115 – hectares of farmland with economic trees in the South Eastern Region of Nigeria.
- Advised on the acquisition, perfection, and lease negotiation of a large tract of industrial engineering yard in Port – Harcourt.

## **ENERGY AND MINERAL RESOURCES (UPSTREAM, MID-STREAM AND DOWN-STREAM)**

- Advised on a major Financing and Technical Services Arrangement (FTSA) involving NNPC, NPDC, NEL and Amaranta, for the funding and operation of an oil block with a proven reserve of over 2 billion barrels of crude oil and massive gas reserves.
- Advised an EPCM contractor to SPDC in a USD \$1.2 billion 45" pipeline project in the Niger Delta region including EPCM, Right of Way approvals, Community Issues, funding and Commissioning.
- Advised on sale and purchase of OMLs, OPLs, Marginal Fields, processing of Consents, negotiating JOAs, Farm-in / Farm-out, and other Operating and JV arrangements (including OPL 109, Ibom, Oriri and Ekeh Marginal fields).
- Advised on a USD \$ 650 million re-entry and project of a swamp accreage.
- Advised on the Ugocha FSTO crude processing and alternative export terminal project from site acquisition, EPCM, Community relationship, licensing and permit, funding, and management and related barging operation.
- Advised a JV on its modified Joint Operating Agreement (JOA) with an Asset Management (AMT) set up to operate the oil block.
- Co-adviser to an Incorporated Joint Venture (IJV) intended to replace the unincorporated JV model with streamlined management and funding strategy to replace the cash call model and make the venture more bankable.



- Advised Neconde Energy Limited on its USD \$ 36 million and 24 million Hedging Policies and Agreements with Glencore Commodities Limited (One of the GT top global bulk traders) in 2016 and 2019. Negotiated Hedging strategy, pricing, tenure, transaction structure, other commercial and legal terms.
- Advised an EPC operator on a USD \$30 million OB3 pipeline project awarded by NNPC.
- Advised a number of service companies on their alliance arrangements with multinational service Companies in satisfaction of Nigerian Content Policy. Advised a service Company on a 260-meter gap in the Gas Tie-in-Pipeline project for Alaoji Power Station.
- Advised an EPC operator on a USD \$30 million OB3 pipeline project awarded by NNPC.
- Advised a number of service companies on their alliance arrangements with multinational service Companies in satisfaction of Nigerian Content Policy.
- Advised a service Company on a 260-meter gap in the Gas Tie-in-Pipeline project for Alaoji Power Station.
- Routinely advise parties on Gas Off-take, Gas Sale and Purchase Agreement, Gas Plant infrastructure project development transactions.
- Advising a Consortium of an entity promoted by one of the largest quoted conglomerates and NNPC on an incorporated joint venture (IJV) development of a multibillion Naira modular refinery in the South Eastern part of Nigeria.
- Advised on diverse investment, divestment and participation in oil and gas businesses, covering start-up formalities, corporate governance advisory, land acquisition, procurement of permits and licences, tax and capital planning, Doing Business Advisory, and Governance and Compliance matters.
- Advised on all aspects of petroleum contracting and negotiations including Drilling, Rig Supply and Management, Catering, Manning, Off-take, Crude Handling, etc.
- Routinely advise oil and gas companies on various operating and commercial arrangement such as JOA, modified JOA, JV, PSA, Crude handling, Forward Sale, Transfer and assignment of interests, Ministerial consent, Field management, Technical services (TSA), Operating and Management (O&M) arrangement, Hydrocarbon Transportation (pipelines, barging, evacuation), Vessel Nomination and Charter, Community Relationship (including Global MOU), Decommissioning and other upstream and midstream matters.
- Extensive consultancy on the several aspects of the new Petroleum Industry Act including governance, commercial, fiscal and legal regimes; and routinely spoken on and advised on policies relating to Energy laws and policies in Nigeria at for a including Petroleum Clubs, CPI, ESQ Training, In-house trainings, etc.

## **INSOLVENCY, DEBT RECOVERY & RESTRUCTURING**

- Acted as Receivership nominee (commercial and legal) to AMCON in its receivership/management over Pan Ocean Oil Company limited for the recovery of USD \$750 million.
- Advised Grant Thornton LP (London) on enforcement of Bondholder's rights over a financial entity in Nigeria to protect their investment of over USD \$40 million; and other insolvency matters with Nigerian connections.
- Acted as Transactional solicitor and due diligence adviser to AMCON regarding a debt equity swap transaction as a workout option for a N75 billion debt owed by a Telco in Nigeria.



- Transaction solicitor in the restructuring of a listed entity that involved the buy – out of its French major investor and re-allocation of shares prior to floatation.
- Advising an energy conglomerate on its efficiency – driven corporate restructuring of over 20 affiliated entities with combined balance sheet of over \$3 Billion.
- Acted as Receiver/Manager appointed by Ecobank Limited over Dana Steel Limited for the recovery of circa N5.5 billion.
- Acted as Receiver/Manager appointed by a commercial bank over Abia Retail Limited, operators of Abia Mall, for the recovery of about N6 billion.
- Advised Grant Thornton LP on its rights and strategy towards enforcement of an international bank's rights in an energy entity.
- Acting for a preferred bidder for the take-over of controlling stake in an aviation Company via a leveraged buyout of majority shareholder with a view to settling the debts of the entity.
- Routinely assisted local and foreign entities recover huge corporate debt portfolio through asset sale, receivership/management, administrative means, litigation, and negotiated settlements.

## **MARITIME, SHIPPING AND DREDGING LEGAL ADVISORY**

- Advised Shiplside Drydock Limited on the financing, and acquisition of \$50 Million Dry Dock facility from a Dutch Company and management of the project in Nigeria.
- Advised Julius Berger Nigeria Limited and B&Q Dredging and Marine Services Limited in their collaboration and sub-contracting of dredging works for Second River Niger Bridge Construction including handling of community issues.
- Advised B&Q Dredging Ltd and Setraco Nigeria Limited on the sand Dredging aspect of the dualization of the East West Road section II (Kiama – Port-Harcourt) project for the Ministry of Nigeria Delta Affairs;
- Advised BlueBay Capital Limited and B&Q Dredging Limited for Dredging works for the Capital Development of Ikate Elegushi Ancient City, Eti-Osa Local Government Area of Lagos State;
- Advised on the Subcontract between Nestoil Limited and B&Q Dredging Limited for provision of dredging services (Swamp Spread Creek/River Crossing) for K2S Pipeline Construction project;
- Representing an indigenous maritime and dredging company on its compliance issues with National Inland Water Authority and Ministry of Mines, permits, licences, cabottage and local content regimes;
- Advised White Dove Shipping Company Limited and Maritime Security and Logistics Solutions Limited on Patrol Boat project for OML 42 Operations on the STS/Export Operations in Escravos Offshore Area;

## **TAX ADVISORY SERVICES**

- Advised a financial institution in respect of its tax liabilities claim on PPTA from the FIRS to the value of N1.1 Billion Naira and presently representing it in a proceeding;
- Provided Legal/Tax opinion on FIRS on stamp duties of USD \$80 million claims relating to acreage acquisition transaction.
- Advised an E&P entity on an \$101 Million PPT claims from the FIRS resulting to a successful rebuttal.



- Advising corporate entities and State Governments on tax related matters.
- Advised companies on the procurement of Tax reliefs / holidays including pioneer status (where applicable).

## **INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY, MEDIA, ENTERTAINMENT AND TECHNOLOGIES (IMET) GROUP**

- Advised the Zinox & Konga Group on governance issues, cross boarder Capital Raising and readiness.
- Originated, arranged sponsorship, funding, deal structuring, collaboration and marketing arrangement for Rotimi Salami/ACSL for the production and airing in DSTV, a popular soap opera known as 'Jack of All Trade' and intellectual rights protection.
- Successfully represented a Nigerian Trademark owner on its rights against a multi-national Food Processing group with headquarters in South Africa and arrived at confidential settlement.
- Routinely advises Collection Society of Nigeria (COSON) on its rights and liabilities for royalty collection globally.
- Advised E-Tranzact Global (UK) Group, a national switching, digital banking and payment service provider on its offshore expansion programmes in the United Kingdom, Ghana, Congo, Cameroon, and Nigeria.
- Advised a top tier quoted Company on over USD\$3 Billion claims against it based on alleged violation of copyright of a graphic designer .

## **CORPORATE COMMERCIAL**

- Rendered Corporate Governance and Board Advisory services to Seplat Energy, Nestoil, Neconde, Transcorp and Zinox Technologies / Konga Group.
- Routinely advised the major Commercial Banks in Nigeria (including First Bank, Zenith, AccessBank, GTBank, UBA, Keystone) Energy Companies, Regulatory agencies, and dozens of large cap corporates (including Dangote, SEPLAT, Transcorp, Neconde, Nestoil , SEC, AMCON, Airtel, 9-Mobile, Julius Berger) on a wide range of corporate and commercial matters.
- Acted as consultant to the World Bank / IMF on Doing Business In Nigeria advisory.
- Acted as Due Diligence agent to AMCON, NAICOM, INFRACREDIT, and rendered Diagnostic Audit services to SEPLAT, NECONDE, NESTOIL, etc.
- Conducted Current State Assessment and proffered advisory on remediation and road map to IPO readiness.
- Supported entities on Tender and Bid preparation and Documentation in conformity with specified standards.

## **B. ARBITRATION, MEDIATION, ADR EXPERIENCE**

- Lead Counsel for the Claimant in a \$350 Million ICC arbitration with seat in London involving a local E&P Company and some IOCs over breach of contractual terms of SPA in the assignment of interest in a prolific oil block located in the Niger Delta region of Nigeria, and misrepresentation of the state of oil and gas infrastructure, et al.



- Co-arbitrator in a gas infrastructure claim and counterclaim of circa \$140 Million.
- Co-arbitrator in an arbitration between Oando and Zenith Bank over the release of escrowed sum of USD\$13 Million arising from a farm out agreement of Oil and gas asset in the Niger Delta.
- Co-counsel (with Professor Fidelis Oditah QC, SAN) in a concluded LCIA arbitration seated in London between a JV partner and Shell Western Trading and Supply Ltd in a principal claim of USD\$8 Million over controversy relating to price nomination in an offtake agreement in the face of force majeure declared on Trans-Forcados export terminal in 2016/2017. There was a counter-claim of about USD2 Million relating to vessel cancellation claims.
- Court appointed co-Arbitrator in an arbitration involving Safetrust Savings & Loans Ltd and FCMB, in a claim for breach of contractual obligation to honour an APG in a State Government contract.
- Co- Arbitrator in an arbitration with a claim of N500 Million damages for breach of health and medical provision contract by a hospital chain against an HMO which allegedly injured the Respondent's reputation leading to loss of patronage.
- Counsel in an arbitration between Mr. Tom Iseghohi vs Transcorp in a claim for part of executive compensation including allotment of 1 billion units of Transcorp shares.
- Counsel in the arbitration between Sofitam and Conoil in a claim involving the sum of N500 Million as damages for breach of contract of supply of fuel pumps nationwide.
- Counsel in a \$4 million London mediation proceeding involving rig purchase and guarantee inter - company guarantee transaction involving Abbot and a foreign SPV supported by a corporate guarantee of a Nigerian operator.
- Counsel in a negotiated settlement of \$12 Million pipeline contract claim and counter claim involving Nestoil vs SPDC.
- Counsel in two LMAA arbitrations with a total claim of circa \$7 million in London involving Caverton Group and Shebba.
- Counsel in a \$20 Million arbitration between Drillog Petro-Dynamics Limited and Gobowen Exploration and Production Limited, over claims for breach of drilling contracts and unpaid invoices with contractual interest. The matter was amicably settled with a confidential consent award entered by the Tribuna

**C. LITIGATION (Trial and Appellate Courts) EXPERIENCE Environmental, Oil & Gas**

- Representing two E & P companies in a N500 billion environmental compensation action in the Niger Delta.
- Represented a major investor in a dispute commenced by a minority stakeholder challenging the decision of the petroleum regulators over a marginal oil field awarded to both parties.
- Representing the Presidency and Petroleum Ministry Regulators in an appeal arising from their revocation of an interest in an oil field.
- Represented an indigenous E & P Company over the decision of the Federal government annulling the operatorship status granted to it in respect of a prolific oil bloc. The matter was resolved by a joint operating structure leading to the setting up of an Asset Management Team (AMT).
- Represented a mid-stream service company in an action against an IOC for calling in A \$13 Million bank guarantee and cancelling an ongoing pipeline project.
- Acting as Plaintiff Counsel in an action for recovery of circa \$50 million claimed in respect of an Operation and Maintenance (O&M) Contract for a producing oil block





## **BANKING, FINANCE & CAPITAL MARKETS**

- Routinely acted as adviser to about 70% of Nigerian Banks on a wide range of matters and debt recoveries of over N30 billion before regular Courts, Tribunals and Administrative proceedings.
- Represented one of the oldest Bank's in Nigeria in a Court of Appeal matter involving a N40B claim and successfully argued on the right of appeal of interested parties who were not parties before the lower Court; as well as the exceptions to the rule of making application for leave to appeal as an interested party before the trial court.
- Represented two ex- CEOs of Banks removed by the CBN as directors of Banks in actions seeking the reversal of the directives of the apex financial regulator at the trial and appellate courts.
- Represented the apex capital market regulator in its action against BIG TREAT PLC and successfully argued on the expanded powers of the Securities and Exchange Commission as a Regulator to intervene in the affairs and governance of all listed companies in Nigeria with a view to protecting investors from the actions of the company that may hurt their interest and investment.
- Represented a Nigerian bank in a class action against a Financial Group, its directors; Issuing Houses and Regulators by some investors who bought substantial quantity of shares totaling over N30 billion being the value of 4.3 billion ordinary shares of 50 kobo each at N7 per share offered during the BGL private placement exercise.
- Represented the SEC in a post-merger adjustment claim brought by one of the federating banks in a scheme of merger involving six banks at the Federal High Court and the Court of Appeal
- Defended the SEC at both the High Court, Court of Appeal and the Supreme Court levels on cases relating to the removal and subsequent re-instatement of a one – time President of the Nigeria Stock Exchange.
- Representing a financial institution in a claim seeking to enforce its right as a Secured Creditor in respect of a debt of almost N7 Billion Naira
- Representing a financial institution in a claim seeking to enforce its right as a Secured Creditor in respect of a debt of almost N6.5 Billion Naira
- Represented one of the Nigerian Banks a N40 Billion class action suit brought by users of ATM.
- Defended the Security and Exchange Commission in a suit filed by an unauthorized Fund Management Company whose operation was shut down by the Commission.
- Successfully defended a major Nigerian bank in a N29.1 billion suit arising from the private placement of shares in a Financial Institution in Nigeria, and handling the appeals arising out of it.
- Successfully defended a Nigerian bank in a N20 billion class action filed by customers of the bank in connection with unauthorized ATM withdrawals.
- Represented a Nigerian Bank successfully at the High Court in an enforcement action filed by a civil construction company in connection with an order to transfer deposits in the sum of N8.993 billion held by it to the Court's Chief Registrar's account pending the determination of the substantive suit.





## **ALLIANCE LAW FIRM**

- Acted as Counsel for Securities & Exchange Commission (SEC) against two Nigerian banks participating in the merger of six banks that constitute the present-day Heritage Bank Limited challenging the sale/transfer of 984,714,071 units of shares of Spring Bank Plc valued at about N7.8 billion to entities connected to a named Bank in a controversial hostile take-over bid.
- Representing a commercial Bank in various cases involving directors of MTech Communication Plc which have a combined claim of about N2.505 billion against it.
- Acted as Counsel to ACB International Bank in the Suit for the merger of six banks into 'Spring Bank'. Successfully argued the Petition and obtained final Court order sanctioning the scheme and incidental reliefs.
- Represented one of the major Nigerian banks and its subsidiary in a suit whereby Teeof Holdings Limited & Anor sought a declaration that they are entitled to full allotment of 13 million units of Zenith Bank shares which they applied for at the Bank's last public offering of shares plus total monetary damages of N 233 million.
- Represented one of the largest indigenous energy group and one of its major directors in an action challenging the directives of the CBN Bankers Committee compelling a Nigerian bank to transfer 911,000 Zain shares to its debtor-customer even though the current holders had prior to the directive purchased the shares for valuable consideration.

### **INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY, MEDIA, ENTERTAINMENT AND TECHNOLOGY (IMET) LAW PRACTICE GROUP**

- Representing a Nigerian Food manufacturing company at the Federal High Court on the infringement of our client's registered industrial designs, getups, packages and distinctive label by another Nigerian manufacturing company. Enforced an anton-pillar order.
- He was counsel to a major downstream petroleum entity sued along with a host of others for over N1Trillion damages for violating the intellectual property rights of the company.
- Successfully represented a Nigerian manufacturing company at the Trade mark Tribunal and the Federal High Court in a trade mark infringement suit.
- Defended a claim against infringement of copyright of a commercial manual used to promote an electronic paying system.

### **LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT**

- Successfully represented a client in a N70 billion claim by 74 ex-staff in respect of an alleged breach
- Representing a financial institution in respect of a suit instituted by 287 ex-staff on a claim of about N10 billion for alleged breach of their employment contract.
- Represented a client in a Trade Union dispute with a Trade Union Body on issues bothering wrongful imposition of union activities and the proper appropriate union with statutory right over the employees.
- Successfully defended a dominant group in the Nigerian oil and gas sector in a criminal charge preferred against our client based upon the complaint of the Industrial Training Fund (I.T.F) alleging that our client failed to remit returns of its payroll.



## **ELECTION PETITION**

- Part of the team that defended a president in a post-election presidential election appeal at the Court of Appeal and the Supreme Court.
- Represented the independent National Electoral Commission (INEC) in a gubernatorial, a Federal House of Representative and State House of Assembly election disputes arising from the 2019 general elections.
- Represented a candidate in a pre-election dispute in connection with the conduct of gubernatorial primaries of a major political party in Nigeria in connection with the 2019 general elections.
- Represented the Independent Electoral Commission ("INEC") in 18 election petition appeals arising from the 2011 Gubernatorial, State House of Assembly and National Assembly Elections in Ogun and Oyo States from the Election Tribunals up to the final appeal level.
- Represented INEC in the Supreme Court pre-election appeal against a governor of a North-Eastern State.
- Successfully represented the Independent Electoral Commission ("INEC") in selected election petition appeals arising from the 2015 Gubernatorial, State House of Assembly and National Assembly Elections in Lagos State from the Election Tribunals up to the final appeal level

## **CRIMINAL DEFENCE / APPEAL**

- Successfully upturned the concurrent decisions of the High Court and Court of Appeal in a number of high impact convictions for capital offences at the Supreme Court leading to orders of discharge and acquittal.
- Successfully sustained the conviction of a State on a conviction for a capital offence and sentencing for life imprisonment at the Supreme Court.
- Successfully upturned a conviction by a High Court of culpable homicide and long-term imprisonment at the Court of Appeal leading to an order of discharge and acquittal.
- Represented a group of management personnel of a Bank charged for alleged criminality arising from their handling a private placement and underwriting resulting in huge commercial losses to some major investors.
- Representation of parties at administrative hearings and panels of governmental agencies and authorities (National Assembly, Tribunals, Administrative Panels, and Investigation Bodies



# PROFILE

## Danbello Sani Na'adiyalle

### Partner

[danbello.naadiyalle@alliancelawfirm.ng](mailto:danbello.naadiyalle@alliancelawfirm.ng)

Danbello is a partner in Alliance Law Firm. He has had 35 years of experience as an In-house Corporate Legal Counsel, two of which were spent at the Legal Department of Union Bank of Nigeria Plc and the remaining 33 years at the Nigeria National Petroleum Corporation, NNPC where he retired as the Managing Director, NNPC Pension Fund Limited.



Danbello worked in several departments and held several positions some of which were Head, Litigation Unit; Deputy Chief, Commercial Law Department (within the Corp. Legal Division); Technical Assistant to the Secretary to the Corporation & Legal Adviser; Manager, Board and Management Committee; General Counsel; West African Gas Pipeline Company Limited, Accra, Ghana (a joint venture gas pipeline company between NNPC, Chevron, Shell, VRA Ghana, Sotogaz Togo and Societe Beninoise de Gaz, Benin Republic). Upon his return from WAGPco Ghana, Danbello was posted to the Corporate Law Department as General Manager from where he was promoted to Group General Manager (GGM) and appointed as the Managing Director, NNPC Pension Fund Limited, a position he held until his statutory retirement.

### EDUCATION

- Ahmadu Bello University (LL. B Hons)
- Nigerian Law School (BL)
- University of Pennsylvania, The Wharton School, Aresty Institute of Executive Education, USA
- Harvard Business School, USA

### PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIP

- Nigerian Bar Association
- International Bar Association

### PRACTICE AREA

- Oil and Gas
- Corporate and Commercial Law

### SOME COURSES ATTENDED

1. INTERNATIONAL LAW INSTITUTE, WASHINGTON DC
  - a. International Oil and Gas Seminar
  - b. Arbitration and Mediation Seminar
  - c. International Project Procurement and Contract Negotiation Seminar
  - d. International Oil and Gas Development Seminar
2. UNIVERSITY OF DUNDEE, CENTRE FOR PETROLEUM AND MINERAL LAW AND POLICY, SCOTLAND
  - a. International Mining Investment
  - b. Creating New Energy Infrastructure in Developing Countries; Policy Issues & Legal Consideration  
Organised in collaboration with NNPC, CPS.

### AWARDS & RECOGNITION

- Presidential Recognition for putting in place multi billion Dollar funding arrangement for Nigeria LNG Limited (as a team member).
- GMD, NNPC Merit Award.

# PROFILE

**Sir Isaac U. Obi**

**Partner**

isaacu.obi@alliancelawfirm.ng

Isaac is a Partner with expertise in the firm's insolvency and general litigation practice. He supports the Firm's quality control process and continued legal education programme.



Sir Isaac's stint in the legal profession has spanned over three decades of active practice, reputed for outstanding accomplishments in various areas of dispute resolution. He founded the law practice, Legal Responses Law Firm, which was eventually collapsed into Alliance Law Firm. He was Head of Chambers & Partner in J.K Gadzama & Partners, Lagos Office, where he successfully managed the office and handled several cases at the High Courts, Tribunals, Court of Appeal and Supreme Court. He played a critical role in the struggle to restore the banking license of Savannah Bank Plc. He also played a significant role in the mergers and acquisition of various insurance companies by industry giants, such as Capital Express Insurance Company Ltd, Universal Insurance Company Ltd, among others. Sir Isaac is rated as a Notable Practitioner in IFLR 1000.

In arbitration practice, he participated actively in the arbitration between IPCO and NNPC over the Bonny Export Terminal Contract, among several other local arbitrations. In off-shore arbitration, he was involved in the arbitration between Assemble Cooperatief U. A. (a Dutch company) and Asset & Resource Management Company Limited - ARM (a Nigerian company), which held in London, concerning the acquisition of cross boarder insurance interest; Nestoil v. Shell arbitration over the acquisition of an Oil Mining License, among others.

His experience in insolvency matters has taken him to several mediation fora, including the one involving Foodin S. A., a Swiss company, in which he recovered staggering sums of money in various denominations for the Swiss company. He was also in London for the mediation session between a Nigeria company and Abbott North Africa Ltd, aimed at settling the dispute over the purchase of some oil well infrastructure, to mention but few

In the area of election petitions, he was in the legal team that managed the Anambra State Governorship electoral contest between Dr. Chris Ngige and Mr. Peter Obi. He was in the Governorship Election Tribunal in Kebbi State, involving the then Governor Bagudu.

Sir Isaac has also made his mark in criminal litigation. He has been involved in several criminal matters, some of which have been concluded and some still pending in court and they include: Oluwapamilerinayo Eniola v. The State of Lagos (CA/LAG/CR/721/2023); FRN v Anayo Nwosu (CHARGE NO: ID/112C/2012), State of Lagos v Onuora James ( SC/CR/283/2021); State of Lagos v. Emeka Orisakwe (CA/LAG/CR/955/2023), FRN v Dana Group of Companies, Charge No: ID/23793C/2024, among others. He also prosecutes criminal matters for some government agencies, including the Independent Corrupt Practices and Other Related Offenses Commission (ICPC)



## **ALLIANCE LAW FIRM**

Sir Isaac is a Notary Public of the Federal Republic of Nigeria and an author of several articles published in reputable international law journals. Some of his articles are: Adjournment of proceedings sine die pending appeal: Has the decision of the Supreme Court in *Alioke v. Oye & Ors.* changed the law? (published in *The Gravitas Review of Business and Property Law*, September 2022, Vol 13 No 3); Minimizing delays in post arbitral award proceedings in Nigeria: A toast to the Arbitration and Mediation Act, 2023 (published in *Journal of Arbitration* Vol 19 Number 1, July 2024, a publication of the Nigerian Institute of Chartered Arbitrators), to mention but a few.

He is also a Member of the Nigerian Institute of Chartered Arbitrators, a former executive member of the Nigerian Bar Association, Lagos Branch, and an Associate member of the Business Recovery and Insolvency Practitioners Association of Nigeria (BRIPAN). Sir Isaac belongs to the prestigious Order of the Knighthood of St. Christopher.

### **EDUCATION**

- University of Cross River State (now University of Uyo) (LLB)
- Nigeria Law School (BL)

### **PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIP**

- Nigerian Bar Association
- International Bar Association
- Fellow Institute of Management Consultants
- Associate Member, Business Recovery and Insolvency Practitioners Association of Nigeria (BRIPAN)
- Member, Nigerian Institute of Chartered Arbitrators

### **PRACTICE AREAS**

- |                                   |                                   |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| • Legal Drafting and Conveyancing | ▪ Constitutional Law              |
| • Legislative Drafting            | ▪ Arbitration                     |
| • Law of Secured Credits          | ▪ Oil & Gas                       |
| • Company Law                     | ▪ Intellectual Property           |
| • Law of Succession               | ▪ Banking & International Finance |
| • Criminal Law                    | ▪ Maritime Law                    |
| • Property Law                    | ▪ Labour Law                      |
| • Family Law                      |                                   |



Some of the cases in which Sir Isaac Obi was involved have been reported in various law reports.

The cases include the following :

- Savannah Bank Plc v NDIC (2005) 4 FWLR (Pt290) 1809 (Court of Appeal) – Challenge of revocation of banking license
- Kachallah v Banki (2006) 2 FWLR (Pt318) 3457 (Supreme Court) – Respondent’s counsel in claim concerning declaration of ownership of land
- Ngige v Obi (2006) 3 FWLR (Pt322) 3938 (Court of Appeal) Governorship Election Petition for the Petitioner
- Mortgages PHB v Standard Trust Insurance (2016) NWLR (Court of Appeal)
- Savannah Bank v. Crown Star (2003) LPELR– 7164(CA) (Court of Appeal) – Appellants counsel in claim anchored on grant of banking facilities
- FAAN v. Autoport (2018) LPELR -46798(CA) (Court of Appeal) – Appellant’s counsel in the Claim challenging the actions of FAAN in securing the territorial integrity of the Airport.

Unreported Judgments Include:

- Francis Chukwukelo v. Fidelity Bank (CA/L/53/2009) delivered on 26th November, 2020 – Respondent’s counsel in claim relating to the grant of overdraft facilities
- Okechukwu Ibe v. Nnamdi Ibe (SC/344/2010) – claim anchored of ownership of land.
- Deputy Sherrif v. Austin Usiehemhen (CA/LAG/CV/215/2021) – Appellant’s counsel in claim challenging the actions of a receiver/manager appointed by a bank
- Onuoha James v. State of Lagos: (CA/L/LAG/CR/722/2020) Appellant’s counsel in appeal against conviction of rape

Some Pending Cases (Supreme Court)

- Onuoha James v State of Lagos (SC/CR/283/2021) – Appellant’s Counsel in appeal against conviction in charge of rape
- Uzoma Nnaji v Everest Nnaji (SC/CV/804/2023) – Appellant’s Counsel in Matrimonial Causes Claim
- Keystone Bank v Murtala Abdullahi (SC/CV/681/2023) – Appellants’ Counsel in the claim against the bank in respect of rejection of allotted shares
- Cajesco Nig. Ltd. v. Afprint Nig. Ltd.

Some Pending Cases (Court of Appeal)

- Guinness V Unegbu (CA/L/178/2011) Appellant’s counsel in a claim challenging the annual reports signed by firm of accountants as an auditor
- Ecobank v Pro M Ltd. (CA/LAG/CV/759/2024) Appellant’s counsel in claim challenging the actions of a receiver/manager appointed by a bank
- Nestoil v. Abbot Investment North Africa Limited (CA/L/190/2018) – Appellant’s counsel in the claim over controversial acquisition of oil and gas infrastructure
- Gobowen Exploration & Production Limited v. Hercules Maritime Limited (CA/LAG/CV/458/2021) – Appellant’s counsel in claim arising from contract over oil and gas services
- Copyright Society of Nigeria (COSON) v. Musical Copyright Society of Nigeria (CA/L/415/2018) - Appellant’s counsel in the claim concerning the propriety of registering more than one collective society for musical intellectual property
- Savannah Bank of Nigeria PLC v. John Shodipo (CA/L/760/2009) – Appellant’s counsel in claim to title of land
- Novateur Electrical and Digital Systems (Pvt) Ltd. v. Standards Organization of Nigeria (CA/L/5/2015) – Appellants’ counsel in claim to challenge the excesses of certain government agencies



- **Oluwapamilerinayo Eniola v. The State of Lagos (CA/LAG/CR/721/2023)** – Appellant’s Counsel in appeal against the conviction of rape
- **Transnational Corporation Nig. PLC v. Tom Iseghohi (CA/LAG/CV/729/2019)** – appellant’s counsel in a claim under contract of employment
- **The President, Federal Republic of Nigeria v. Movido Exploration & Production Limited (CA/ABJ/CV/636/2022)** – claim arising from revocation of Oil Mining Lease
- **Nestoil v. Nigerian Ports Authority (CA/L/59/2016)** – Counsel to Appellant in suit challenging the authority to impose cabotage dues on movement of tug boats on inland water ways

#### **Some States/Federal High Courts Judgments**

- **Mr. Chidi Henry Amobi v. Mr. Chidi Robert Oboh (FHC/L/CS/1624/2014)** – claim over the ownership structure and shares of a BDC
- **Mr. Okechukwu Nsofor v. Babatunde Ogunlana (LD/699/1996)** – claim on interest in real property development.
- **Cynthia Ifesinachi Aghaeze v. Stephen Chukwudi Aghaeze (WD/81/2012)** – Claim for dissolution of marriage
- **Novateur Electrical and Digital Systems (Pvt) Ltd. v. Standards Organisation of Nigeria (SON) (FHC/L/CS/1581/2012).** – Challenge of illegal application of powers of government agency
- **Afprint Nig PLC v. Cajesco Nig. Ltd (ID/1626/2003)** – Debt Recovery Suit.
- **Greengates Specialties Ltd v. Bank PHB Ltd.**
- **Matts Dada Chalokwu v. Registered Trustees of DKT Foundation Nigeria (NICN/AWK/10/2017)** Defendant’s counsel in Claim against wrongful termination of employment.
- **Dozy Oil & Gas v. Nulec Industries PLC (FHC/L/CS/1289/2012)** – Defendant’s counsel in the claim for unallotted shares of an investor.



# PROFILE

## Dr. Michael Agamah

### Partner

michael.agamah@alliancelawfirm.ng

A Certified Management Consultant and Fellow of the Institute of Management Consultants, Dr. Agamah was called to the Nigerian Bar on December 10, 1991, and worked with the law firms of Tunde Odanye & Co. and Page Law Office before joining Zenith Bank Plc as a Legal Officer in February 1997. In a banking career that would span 28 years, 17 years of which were at senior management level until his retirement from the Bank



Dr. Agamah also worked with Guardian Express Bank Plc, Spring Bank Plc, Bank PHB Plc, and Keystone Bank Limited. He had functioned variously as Company Secretary/Legal Adviser and General Counsel with supervisory oversight for Classified Assets Management, Corporate Affairs, Human Capital Management, and Keystone Bank's subsidiaries in Nigeria, Sierra Leone, and Liberia.

Dr. Agamah's responsibilities also included but not limited to providing legal and compliance leadership, as well as strategic advice on employee/labour relations, banking operations, controls, audit, and business teams; managing legal, regulatory, and reputational risk; as well as assessing the risk profiles in the operating environment and developing appropriate measures to address and mitigate the identified risks.

### EDUCATION

- Doctor of Business Administration, Leeds Beckett University, United Kingdom (2017)
- MSc. Corporate Governance, Leeds Beckett University, United Kingdom (2009)
- MA Education, University of South Wales, United Kingdom (2021)
- Advanced Management Programme, Lagos Business School (AMP 20) (2008)
- LL.M (Industrial & Commercial Law), University of Lagos (1998)
- B.L, Nigerian Law School (1991)
- LL.B, University of Jos (1990)
- B.Sc Political Science, University of Calabar (1984)

### PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIP

- Nigerian Bar Association
- Chartered Institute of Bankers of Nigeria
- Institute of Chartered Secretaries and Administrators of Nigeria (ICSAN)
- Institute of Capital Market Registrars, Nigeria
- Chartered Management Institute, UK
- Institute of Directors (IoD), Nigeria
- Society for Corporate Governance Nigeria
- Institute of Management Consultants, Nigeria





## **PRACTICE AREAS**

- Corporate Governance & Board Advisory
- Regulatory Compliance & Legal Risk Management
- Mergers, Acquisitions & Divestitures
- Company Secretarial Practice
- Banking & Financial Services Law
- Corporate Restructuring & Insolvency
- Labour & Employment Law
- Capital Markets & Corporate Finance
- Environmental, Social & Governance (ESG) Strategy
- Subsidiary Oversight and Cross-Border Legal Advisory

## **BOARD ASSIGNMENTS**

- Dr. Agamah had served meritoriously as a non-executive director on the boards of KBL Insurance Limited (2012 – 2017) as well as Global Bank Liberia Limited (October 2019 – December 2022), both subsidiaries of Keystone Bank Limited

## **BANKING EXPERIENCE**

- As General Counsel, Michael played a leading in-house advisory role in guiding Keystone Bank through the legal and regulatory terrain following the assumption by Keystone Bank of the assets, deposit liabilities, and certain other liabilities of then Bank PHB Plc.
- Played a leading role in stabilizing Keystone Bank post-purchase and assumption, managing and in a number of cases, extinguishing legal liabilities that arose from employee contracts, labour union relations, vendor management, and other obligations associated with the assumption of deposit liabilities.
- As Company Secretary, Dr. Agamah acquired extensive experience in corporate governance advisory roles in Keystone Bank. He conceived and supervised the execution of the programme that resulted in the institutionalization of board evaluation as well as the appraisal of the internal audit function in the bank.
- He also initiated and successfully executed the development of key corporate governance policies and charters of Keystone Bank. These include, inter alia, the Board Charter, Board Committee Charters, Directors' Conflict of Interest Policy, Board Dispute Management Policy, Board Appointment Policy, Compensation Clawback Policy, Code of Business and Ethical Conduct, Board Diversity Policy, Insider Loans Policy, and Executive Management Committee Charter.
- Apart from his corporate governance advisory roles, Dr. Agamah was a trusted adviser to the in-house team that developed the environmental and sustainability practices and framework of Keystone Bank; and participated extensively in appraising the risk and compliance frameworks of the bank and its subsidiaries in Nigeria, Sierra Leone, and Liberia; conducting risk assessments and regulatory compliance audit; and assessing the governance, risk and compliance orientation of third-party clients, identifying risks associated therewith, and developing strategies to mitigate the risks.



## **TEACHING AND KNOWLEDGE SHARING**

- Dr. Agamah has been actively engaged in teaching and knowledge sharing from 2003 to the present. Between 2003 and 2013, he supported the Financial Institutions Training Centre (FITC) as an external faculty member handling Introduction to Banking Laws, lecturing entry-level staff across several banks on behalf of FITC. His teaching notes have been published in FITC (2013) A Book of Reading: Essentials of Banking, pp. 30-115.

Beyond 2013 up to the present, he had prepared and delivered training materials at seminars and workshops organized by Esq. Legal Training, the Institute of Chartered Secretaries and Administrators of Nigeria (ICSAN) (Lagos Chapter), the Nigeria Deposit Insurance Corporation of Nigeria (NDIC) (Legal Department), as well as the Chartered Institute of Directors (IoD) Nigeria, amongst others.

## **PROJECTS**

- Played a leading advisory role in M&A activities that resulted in the divestment of Keystone Bank's interests from KBL Healthcare Limited, Keystone Bank (Sierra Leone) Limited, Global Bank (Liberia) Limited, Orient Bank Limited (Uganda), as well as other domestic subsidiaries of Keystone Bank Limited.
- Played a leading in-house advisory role in the merger process (involving 6 banks) that culminated in the emergence of Spring Bank Plc on February 1, 2006.
- Was the in-house lead advisor in the reconstruction of the share capital of Spring Bank Plc in August 2006, as well as the listing of Spring Bank Plc's shares on the Nigerian Stock Exchange in 2006.
- Acquired first-hand experience in the corporate restructuring of then Spring Bank Plc (2009), Bank PHB Plc (2010) and the eventual assumption of the assets, deposit liabilities, and certain other liabilities of Bank PHB Plc by Keystone Bank Limited (on 5 August 2011) through the purchase and assumption process.
- Acquired hands-on experience in corporate finance and capital market transactions by the leading roles played in Guardian Express Bank Plc's:
- Bonus Issue of 100,000,000 ordinary shares of 50 kobo each in 2002.
- Bonus Issue of 246,046,466 ordinary shares of 50 kobo each in 2003.
- Rights Issue of 280,651,113 ordinary shares of 50 kobo each at N1.00 per share in 2004.
- Bonus Issue of 750,001,372 ordinary shares of 50 kobo each in 2004.
- Initial Public Offer of 8,249,993,139 ordinary shares of 50 kobo each at N1.20 per share in 2005.
- The listing on the Nigerian Stock Exchange in 2005.
- Was part of the teams that planned and successfully executed several debt collection and insolvency strategies for the banks where Michael had worked.



## **AWARDS AND RECOGNITION**

- Listed in the GC Powerlist Nigeria 2025 – The Legal 500
- Listed in the GC Powerlist Nigeria 2024 – The Legal 500
- Listed in the Top 100 Corporate Counsel in Africa (2015) – GC Powerlist: Africa, [www.legal500.com](http://www.legal500.com)
- Distinction in Corporate Financial Management Module – Professional Qualifying Examination (November 2004 Diet), Institute of Chartered Secretaries and Administrators, London
- Co-winner, Zenith Bank Chief Executive Award for Outstanding Performance – 1998
- One of the 6 Best Graduating Students – Nigerian Law School, 1990/91 Session
- Co-winner, RAO Akinjide Prize for the 3 Best Graduating Students – Faculty of Law, University of Jos, 1989/90 Session
- Best 300 Level Student – Faculty of Law, University of Jos, 1988/89 Session
- NYSC State Chairman's Honours Award for Excellent Performance – Cross River State, 1984/85 Service Year
- Best Graduating Student, Political Science Department – University of Calabar, 1983/84 Session

## **PUBLICATIONS**

- Agamah, M. (2024) "The Evolution of Corporate Governance in Nigeria: 1886 – 2018" European Journal of Business and Management Research, 9(5), 185 – 193.
- Agamah, M. (2021) "Parameters for Board Evaluation and Corporate Governance Audit" in Idornigie, P. (ed) (2021) A Guide to Board Evaluation and Corporate Governance Audit, The ICSAN Company Secretary Handbook, Vol.2, 57 – 68.
- Agamah, M. (2020) "An Exploratory Study: To What Extent Do Companies Listed on the Nigerian Stock Exchange Comply with Corporate Governance and Risk Management Principles?" Current Strategies in Economics and Management, Vol. 8, 48 – 73.
- Agamah, M. (2017) "Governance, Risk Management and Corporate Performance: A Survey of Nigerian Companies" Unpublished Doctoral Thesis, Faculty of Business and Law, Leeds Beckett University, United Kingdom.
- Agamah, M. (2013) "To What Extent Do Companies Listed on the Nigerian Stock Exchange Comply with Corporate Governance and Risk Management Principles?" International Journal of Business and Management, 8(14), 134-157.
- Agamah, M. (2013) "Introduction to Banking Laws" in FITC (2013) A Book of Reading: Essentials of Banking, Financial Institutions Training Centre, Lagos, 30-115.

# PROFILE

## **Suleiman Yunusa**

### **Partner**

suleiman.yunusa@alliancelawfirm.ng

Suleiman is a highly experienced professional, result oriented, diligent and hardworking team player. He possesses the ability to work under pressure to meet deadlines without sacrificing quality. He has a depth of experience in company secretarial services, personnel development, capital market transactions, banking & finance, insolvency, corporate restructuring, legal audit and corporate governance.



Prior to joining the firm as a Partner, Suleiman worked with the Union Bank of Nigeria group for about two decades rising to the position of Group Company Secretary/ Legal Adviser of Union Registrars Limited. Suleiman is a Notary Public of the Federal Republic of Nigeria. He was an active member of the bank's restructuring teams that implemented the divestiture of the bank in subsidiaries in line with the CBN directives and focusing the bank on its core banking operations. He has also advised on several capital raising, custodial, regulatory compliance, corporate governance and Islamic Finance including sukuk bonds.

### **EDUCATION**

- Bayero University, Kano of Nigeria (LLB)
- Nigeria Law School (BL)

### **PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIP**

- Nigerian Bar Association
- International Bar Association
- International Law Association- Nigeria branch
- Capital Market Solicitors Association
- Association of Capital Market Registrars

### **PRACTICE AREAS:**

- Legal Drafting and Conveyancing
- Legislative Drafting
- Law of Secured Credits
- Company Law
- Law of Succession

# PROFILE

## Theophilus Ochonogor

### Partner

[theo.ochonogor@alliancelawfirm.ng](mailto:theo.ochonogor@alliancelawfirm.ng)

Theophilus is a Partner in the Firm's Dispute Resolution Practice Group. He obtained his LLB (Hons.) degree from Ambrose Alli University, Ekpoma in 1994 and was called to the Nigerian Bar on 22nd March, 1995. He had short stints of law practice at the law firms of Collins Aimuan & Co. and Tony Merah & Co., and had prolonged and intensive dispute resolution experience at Layi Babatunde & Co. and Clarke, Paiko & Co. At Clarke, Paiko & Co., he was the Head of Chambers for over a twelve years until he joined Alliance Law Firm as a partner in November, 2016.



Theophilus is a core litigation lawyer and heads a team of lawyers in the Dispute Resolution Practice Group of the Firm. His responsibilities include advising clients on various aspects of the law, drafting of pleadings & writing legal opinions, written addresses and briefs of arguments and managing assigned tasks to team members. Theophilus appears regularly at the Federal and State High Courts, National Industrial Court, Investments and Securities Tribunal, Court of Appeal and the Supreme Court of Nigeria

Over the years, Theophilus has acquired a wealth of experience in litigation arising from various fields of law, such as: Employment/Labour Law, Matrimonial/Family Law, Banking, Commercial Law, Constitutional Law, Oil & Gas Law, General Civil Law, Law of Contracts, Law of Torts, Land/Property Law, etc. In addition, he has developed considerable skills in research, writing, legal drafting and advocacy. In particular, he is versed in the arts of cross-examination and brief writing.

Some of the cases in which Theophilus was involved in and have been reported in various law reports include the following cases: Mark v. Abubakar (2009) 2 NWLR (Pt. 1124) 79; Mrs. Mudasiru v. Abdullahi (2011) 7 NWLR (Pt. 1247) 591; Feed & Food Farms (Nig) Ltd v. NNPC (2009) 6-7 SC 1; Major Bello Mogaji v. The Nigeria Army (2008) 2-3 SC (Pt. II) 146; Senator Ladoja v. INEC & Ors. (2007) 7 SC 99; (2007) 12 NWLR (Pt. 1047) 119; Senator Ladoja v. INEC & Ors. (2007) 12 NWLR (Pt. 1047) 97; Ibikunle v. State (2005) 1 NWLR (Pt. 907) 387; Saidu Ahmed & 2 Ors. v. Central Bank of Nigeria (2012) 7 SC (II) 1;

(2012) LPELR- 9341 (SC); National Population Commission v. Mr. O. O. Williams (2016) LPELR-41492 (CA); and Thomas Kingsley Securities Ltd & Anor. v. Securities and Exchange Commission & 9 Ors. (2013) 1 SDJJQJ 6-7 (Selected Dicta and Judgments of Hon. Justice Okechukwu J. Okeke). Worthy of mention is his participation as a member of the legal team for the Respondent in an international arbitration before the Arbitral Tribunal of the Netherlands Arbitration Institute, Rotterdam in a case between New Skies Satellites B. V. and Daar Communications Plc.

In addition to the above cases, other cases which Theophilus conducted which are yet to be reported include: Korean National Oil Corporation & 4 Ors v. The President of The Federal Republic of Nigeria & 5 Ors; Owel Petroleum Services Nigeria Limited v. Korea National Oil Corporation & 9 Ors; Mr. Elias Antoun Dahboul v. The Governor of Kano State & 2 Ors; Alhaji Alhassan Aminu Dantata & Ors. v. Mr. Elias Antoun Dahboul; Apapa Local Government Council v. National Clearing and Forwarding Agency & Anor; National Clearing and Forwarding Agency & Anor. v. Apapa Local Government Council; and Nigeria Deposit Insurance Corporation v. Marcon Steel Company Limited & Anor.

Apart from law practice, Theophilus is an ordained Minister of the Redeemed Christian Church of God and holds a postgraduate diploma in Theology from the Redeemed Christian Bible College. He is a mentor to many young lawyers and Christian Youths.

### EDUCATION

- Ambrose Alli University, Ekpoma (LLB)
- Nigerian Law School (BL)

### PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIP

- Nigerian Bar Association (NBA).
- International Bar Association (IBA).
- Nigerian Institute of Chartered Arbitrators (NICArb).
- Business Recovery & Insolvency Practitioners Association of Nigeria (BRIPAN)



### **PRACTICE AREAS:**

- Land/Property Law
- Election Petitions
- Debt Recovery
- Banking/Commercial law
- Oil and Gas
- Matrimonial/Family law
- Labour/Employment Law

### **PUBLISHED ARTICLES:**

Theophilus creates time to write on topical legal issues. Some of his published articles are:

- The Rule of Law and Restriction on Assets of Politically Exposed Persons in Nigeria: Executive Order No. 6 of 2018 in Perspective, published in The Gravitas Review of Business & Property Law, June 2019 Vol. 10 No. 2;
- Violations of Proprietary Rights in Nigeria: A Discourse of Courts' Decisions in Defence of Citizens' Rights, published in Mondaq of 20 June, 2023;
- The Decision In Shittu v. P.A.N Ltd: A Death Knell On Appeals To The Supreme Court Involving Mixed Law And Facts? published in Lexology of 28 September, 2023.
- Inherent Jurisdiction of Courts Under Nigerian Law and Practice: A Lubricant In The Dispensation Of Justice, published in The Gravitas Review of Business & Property Law of December, 2024 Vol. 15 No. 4.
- He has also co – authored some articles which include the following:
- The Court of Appeal: Jurisdiction, Rights of Appeal and Procedure”, published in The Gravitas Review of Business & Property Law, March 2020, Vol. 11 No. 1;
- Udeogu v. FRN: The Need To Revisit The Provisions of Section 396(7) of ACJA, 2015, published in The Gravitas Review of Business & Property Law, December 2021 Vol. 12 No. 4; and
- Breach of Promise of Marriage: A Legal Perspective, published in Newswire of 12 November, 2020,

### **LITIGATION EXPERIENCE**

- Represented NJ. Exploration Ltd, the 5th Applicant in Suit No. FHC/ABJ/M/146/2009 – Korean National Oil Corporation & 4 Ors v. The President of The Federal Republic of Nigeria & 5 Ors., an action for judicial review before the Federal High Court, Abuja in which the Applicants successfully challenged the revocation of OPLs 321 and 323 to the Applicants by the President.
- Represented the Plaintiff in Suit No. K/M302/2003 – Mr. Elias Antoun Dahboul v. The Governor of Kano State & 2 Ors., an action before the High Court of Kano State, Kano in which the Plaintiff successfully claimed title to a property in Kano Metropolis. Also acted for Mr. Elias Antoun Dahboul as Respondent in Appeal No. CA/K/127/2012 - Alhaji Alhassan Aminu Dantata & Ors. v. Mr. Elias Antoun Dahboul wherein the Court of Appeal sitting in Kaduna upheld the judgment of the trial court in favour of Mr. Dahboul.



- Successfully defended Suit No. ID/209/1995 - Halim Mohammed v. Carlink Limited in which the Claimant claimed general damages in the sum of N5,000,000.00 against the Defendant before the High Court of Lagos. Also represented the Carlink Limited as Respondent in Appeal No. CA/L/750/2006 - Halim Mohammed v. Carlink Limited in which the Court of Appeal sitting in Lagos affirmed the judgment of the trial court dismissing the suit.
- Represented the Plaintiff in Suit No. FHC/L/CS/1001/2008 - Thomas Kingsley Securities Ltd & Anor. v. Securities & Exchange Commission & Ors. before the Federal High Court, Lagos which ordered the Securities and Exchange Commission to render a full account of its management of the affairs of Thomas Kingsley Securities Ltd ("TKS") pursuant to the judgment of the Investments and Securities Tribunal. In compliance with the said judgment SEC forwarded to TKS a copy of the Final Report of the activities of the Interim Management Team (IMT) that managed the affairs of TKS, and subsequently paid to TKS the sum of N13,529,181.27 being the total sum outstanding from the activities of the IMT and which said sum was due to TKS.
- Represented the Plaintiff in Suit No. FHC/L/CS/1433/12 - Thomas Kingsley Securities Ltd v. Securities & Exchange Commission in which the Plaintiff successfully challenged the Defendant for unlawfully and illegally withholding interests on the sum of N13,529,181.27 being the judgment debt in Suit No. FHC/L/CS/1001/2008 - Thomas Kingsley Securities Ltd & Anor. v. Securities & Exchange Commission & Ors.
- Represented the Claimants in Suit No. LD/3214/99 – John Ademola Harmona & Anor. v. Lagos State Urban Renewal Board & Ors., an action before the High Court of Lagos State, Lagos in which the Claimants successfully challenged the compulsory acquisition of the Claimants' property on Ereko Street, Lagos without payment of compensation to them. Taiwo J. found in favour of the Claimants and ordered the payment of the sum of N10 Million as compensation to the Claimants.
- Represented the Defendant in Suit No. FHC/L/FBC/139/99 – Nigeria Deposit Insurance Corporation (NDIC) v. Marcon Steel Company Limited & Anor. before the Federal High Court, Lagos in which NDIC as the official liquidator of Allied Bank of Nigeria Plc, claimed against the Defendants the sum of N243, 693,174.64 being the outstanding balance and interests thereon. Successfully challenged the suit and same was dismissed.
- Represented the Defendant in Suit No. No. FHC/J/CS/162/99 – Nigeria Deposit Insurance Corporation (NDIC) v. Padua Investment Nig. Limited & Anor. before the Federal High Court, Lagos in which NDIC as the official liquidator of Allied Bank of Nigeria Plc, claimed against the Defendants the sum of N141, 169,534. 91 (One Hundred and Forty - One Million, One Hundred and Sixty - Nine Thousand, Five Hundred and Thirty – Four Naira, Ninety - One Kobo) outstanding balance and interests thereon. Successfully challenged the suit and same was dismissed.
- Was part of the team that represented the Claimants in the matter of the Estate of late Air Commodore Gbolahan Adio Madashiru, Suit No. ID/597/05 – Mrs. Foluke Mudashiru & Ors. v. Ibrahim Abdullahi & Ors., an action before the High Court of Lagos State, Lagos in which the Claimants unsuccessfully challenged the validity of the last Will of Late Air Commodore Gbolahan Adio Mudashiru, a former Military Administrator of Lagos State. Opesanwo J. upheld the validity of the will and the 1st – 5th Defendants as the duly appointed executors of the estate and, accordingly, dismissed the suit.
- Represented the Plaintiff in Suit No. FHC/UY/CS/83/2012 – Engr. Ndiuwem Benjamin Akpabot v. Power





Holding Company of Nigeria Plc & 2 Ors., an action before the Federal High Court, Uyo in which the Plaintiff unsuccessfully challenged the termination of his appointment by the Defendant as an Assistant General Manager.

- Represented the Claimants in Suit No. LD/818/1995 – The Registered Trustees of C & S Unity Church of Zion of Nigeria & Overseas v. John A. Omogunloye before the High Court of Lagos State, Lagos in which the Claimants claimed title to a property in Gasper Street, Ikate, Itire, Surulere, Lagos State in possession of their pioneer pastor and former trustee. Oyebanji J. found in favour of the Claimants and delivered judgment in their favour.
- Represented the Claimant in an action before the High Court of Lagos State, Lagos in which the Claimant claimed general and special damages in the sum of N408,000,000.00 against a private secondary school in Lagos for negligence resulting to the death of his eleven years old son while under the care of the school. The matter was settled amicably and Terms of Settlement adopted as consent judgment. (Details withheld for reasons of confidentiality)
- Represented the Defendants in Suit No. HCT/146/2012 - Agbara Estate Residents Association & Ors. v. Agbara Estate Property Services Ltd & Anor. before the High Court of Ogun State, Ota in which the Plaintiffs who are owners and occupiers of plots of Land in Agbara Estate sought, inter alia, an order setting aside the service charge of N25,000 imposed on each resident/owner on the ground that the imposition of the service charge is unilateral, arbitrary and unjustifiable. Onofowokan J. in dismissing the suit held that, “The author of Halsburys Law of England, 4th Edition, Volume 27, paragraph 260 at 200 said that at common law, a tenant has no right to demand information about the calculation or appointment of a service charge, a tenant can only persuade the landlord to disclose the relevant information. To that extent, since the sub-lease exhibits A & I does not contain express provision that the Plaintiffs should be consulted in the determination and disbursement of service charge to be paid by the lessees, to imply and or read such into the contract would contradict the express terms investing the defendant/sub-lease with the obligation to determine and apportion the cost of providing and running the services in the Estate, and to do so would tantamount to re-writing the contract for the parties, which is not in the office of the court to do. Consultation with the sub-leases would therefore, in my view not be necessary to give efficacy to the intention of the parties as expressed in Exhibit A & I”.
- Successfully represented the Plaintiff in Suit No. FHC/L/CS/607/1998 - Mr. O. O. Williams v. National Population Commission, an action before the Federal High Court, Lagos in which the Plaintiff challenged the termination of his appointment by the Defendant. Ajakaiye J. held that “the termination of the Plaintiff’s appointment/employment by the Defendant via a letter dated 17th April, 1996 is ultra vires, null and void” and accordingly, granted the reliefs sought by the Plaintiff. This judgment was, however, reversed by the Court of Appeal, Lagos in Appeal No. CA/L/479/2010 - National Population Commission v. Mr. O. O. Williams now reported in (2016) LPELR - 41492 (CA).
- Represented the Defendant, Keystone Bank in Suit No. LD/157/2010 - Mrs. Sheri Williams v. Keystone Bank Limited, an action before the High Court of Lagos State in which the Claimant claimed, inter alia, the sum of N207,384,512.54 (Two Hundred and Seven Million, Three Hundred and Eighty - Four Thousand, Five Hundred and Twelve Naira and Fifty - Four kobo) alleged excess bank charges and interests thereon. Judgment was given in the sum of N39,107,613.06 and cost of N500,000.00 against the Bank which is being





challenged at the Court of Appeal, Lagos.

- Represented the Claimant in Suit No. LD/2060/2009 - Travaux Investment Limited v. Keystone Bank Limited before the High Court of Lagos State and successfully challenged its claim, inter alia, for the sum of N1, 671,080,274.69 (One Billion, Six Hundred and Seventy - One Million, Eighty Thousand, Two Hundred and Seventy - Four Naira, Sixty - Nine Kobo) alleged excessive bank charges and interests thereon. Oluyemi J. dismissed the Claimant's claims in their entirety and granted the Defendant's counter -claim in the sum of N 514,016,204.33 plus interest thereon.
- Represented the Appellants in Appeal No. CA/AK/99/16 - Moses Akinbehinje & Ors. v. Enitufo Shadrack & Ors. before the Court of Appeal, Akure and successfully challenged the judgment of the High Court of Ondo State, Okitipupa per Fasanmi J. in Suit No. HOK/33/91 - Enitufo Shadrack & Ors. v. Moses Akinbehinje & Ors. granting title to a vast parcel of land in Okitipupa to the Respondents. In a unanimous judgment, the three justices reversed the judgment of the lower court and granted title to the Appellants.
- Represented the 2nd Defendant, Keystone Bank Limited in Suit No. ID/353/2008 - General Telephone and Electronics Limited v. MB Technologies Limited & Keystone Bank Limited before the High Court of Lagos State and unsuccessfully challenged Plaintiff's claim in the sum of N1.5Billion allegedly deposited by the 1st Defendant with the 2nd Defendant and being held in trust by the Defendants for the benefit of the Claimant. Lawal – Akapo J. (as he then was) found in favour of the Claimant and gave judgment against the Defendants. The judgment is being challenged at the Court of Appeal, Lagos.
- Represented the 1st Defendant in Suit No. LD/403/2009 - GPC Manufacturing Limited v. Oceanic Bank International Plc & Anor. before the High Court of Lagos State and successfully challenged the claim of the Claimant in the sum of ₦78,600,000.00 alleged as balance due to the Claimant from its instruction to the 1st Defendant to sell its 6,000,000 units of Bank PHB shares. Adamson J. dismissed the Plaintiff's claims and granted 1st Defendant's counter- claim in the sum of ₦82,132,402.43 (Eighty-Two Million, One Hundred and Thirty- Two Thousand, Four Hundred and Two Naira, Forty- Three Kobo) plus interest thereon.
- Represented the Respondents in Petition No. FHC/L/CP/1403/21 - A.Hak Drillcon B.V. v. Nesthak HDD Services Limited before the Federal High Court, Lagos in which the Petitioner sought an order directing the 2nd Respondent to buy the Petitioner's shares and pay the sum of €1,700,000 (One Million Seven Hundred Thousand Euros) to the Petitioner to cover both the cost of the Petitioner's shares in the 1st Respondent and other receivables due to the Petitioner from the 1st Respondent; alternatively, an order winding up the 1st Respondent. Parties settled the matter amicably and the executed and filed Terms of Settlement was adopted as the consent judgment of court.
- Represented the Claimants in Suit No. LD/1514/2011 – IEIMS Investment Limited & Anor. v. Access Bank Plc before the High Court of Lagos State. In the suit, the Claimants sought, inter alia, an order directing the Defendant to refund the sum of N6,281,930.92 (Six Million, Two Hundred and Eight - One Thousand, Nine Hundred and Thirty Naira, Ninety - Two Kobo) to the 1st Claimant in compliance with the decision of the Banker's Committee of the Chartered Institute of Bankers of Nigeria dated 4th June, 2012. Adesanya J. gave judgment in favour of the Claimants and dismissed the counter – claim of the Defendant.
- Represented the 3rd & 4th Defendants in Suit No. LD/2398/2010 - Access Bank Plc v. Rizen Othniel Limited & Ors. before the High Court of Lagos State. The Claimant claimed against the Defendants jointly and severally alleged debt in the sum of N145,687,032.10, interest thereon, and an order of injunction granting



the Claimant authority to sell the 2nd Defendant's property situate at Isolo, Lagos State. Adesanya J. gave judgment in favour of the Defendants and dismissed the claims of the Claimant.

- Represented the Defendant in Suit No. LD/1559/10 - Sir Chief (Dr) Ezekiel Ainabe v. Conoil Plc before the High Court of Lagos State. The Claimant challenged the termination of the dealership agreement between the parties and sought, inter alia, special and general damages totaling about N78,000,000.00 and an order reinstating, re – opening and allowing the Claimant to operate as a company dealer of the Defendant at the fuel station lying, being and situate at 12/14 Commercial Road, Apapa, Lagos. Opesanwo J. found substantially in favour of the Defendant, awarding nominal damages in the paltry sum of N1,000,000.00 (One Million Naira) to the Claimant.
- Represented the Defendants in Suit No. LD/5712GCMW/2018 - Mr. Richard Rotimi Pedro v. Keystone Bank Limited & Anor. Plc before the High Court of Lagos State in which the Claimant sought, inter alia, a declaration that the forceful seizure and occupation of the Claimant's properties in GRA Ikeja, Lagos by the Defendants in purported enforcement of the terms of the Deed of Legal Mortgage dated 5th October, 2009 is unlawful and an act of trespass. Successfully challenged the jurisdiction of the court to entertain the suit and same was accordingly struck out.
- Represented Petitioners and Respondents in some Divorce Petitions before the High Courts in Lagos, Ikeja, Ibadan and Ota.
- Team member representing Petitioners and Respondents in Governorships, National Assembly and State Assemblies Election Petitions in Ogun, Plateau and Benue states.

## **EXPERIENCE AS SOLICITOR**

- Advised clients on wills and drafted and lodged wills at the Probate Registry.
- Advised clients on properties of deceased relations, conducted searches at Probate Registries, and applied for and obtained Letters of Administration for clients.
- Drafted Deeds of Assignments and other commercial agreements for clients.
- Advised clients and rendered legal opinions on various knotty legal issues upon instructions.

# PROFILE

## Gabriel O. Onojason, MCARB

### Partner

[gab.onojason@alliancelawfirm.ng](mailto:gab.onojason@alliancelawfirm.ng)

Gabriel is a Partner in Commercial and Corporate law practice and Dispute Resolution Team with over 18 years of diversified experience in management, legal and risk analysis roles in the legal profession, his specialisations across his practice areas include but not limited to, banking and finance, project finance, capital market, corporate restructuring, equity and asset acquisitions, mergers, telecommunications, regulatory compliance, foreign investments, real estate transactions, labour/ employment, intellectual property, Tax, Energy, Insolvency and Business Rescue, general corporate practice, business advisory services, anti - trust, Dispute and real estate management.



With his penchant for advocacy, he is also deeply involved in the Dispute Resolution and Arbitration department of our Firm where he has been involved as Counsel in various litigation and alternative dispute resolution matters. He manages a large litigation, Arbitration and alternative dispute resolution portfolio comprising top end regulatory, commercial, criminal, labour, tax, insolvency and election petitions.

Gabriel brings his strong skills as a manager, negotiator, and researcher to bear in his areas of multidisciplinary expert knowledge and practice. He has worked on numerous transactions involving the private and public sectors over his eighteen years of practice and is an invaluable asset when structuring new or novel transactions.

He is a contributor to the Global Indicators Group - Doing Business Project from Nigeria (Doing Business Global Report, 2013, 2014, 2015 and 2016, 2017 and 2021) and was part of the contributors to the pioneer World Bank Group Benchmarking Public-Private Partnerships project that measures key characteristics of Public-Private Partnerships (PPP) globally building on the 'Doing Business' methodology. He is also part of the team of lawyers providing technical support to the Federal Government Initiative (FSS2020) involved with the review of some selected Bills and drafting of critical Legal and Regulatory framework in the Nigeria financial system.

### EDUCATION

- Ahmadu Bello University (LL. B Hons)
- University of Lagos (LLM)

### PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIP

- Nigerian Bar Association
- International Bar Association
- Nigerian Institute of Chartered Arbitrators (NICARB)
- Association of International Petroleum Negotiators (AIPN)

### PRACTICE AREA

- M & A Arbitration and Dispute resolution
- Banking and Finance
- Capital Markets, Mergers & Acquisition
- Energy and Natural resources
- Business Advisory Support and Corporate Governance
- Investment projects / ventures
- Trade and Investment Dispute Resolution.



**A. TRANSACTIONS & ADVISORY EXPERIENCE**  
**BANKING & FINANCING**

- Advised Infracredit as Transaction Counsel in relation to the guarantee of a N20 Billion Bond infrastructure debt issuance by GPC SPV Limited;
- Part of the team that advised an Energy Company on a \$640 million mid-term Corporate Loan facility from a club of lenders'
- Part of the team that advised a major Telco ("9-Mobil") on its \$400 million mid-term loan facility from International Finance Corporation'
- Part of the team that advised a borrower on its US \$1.2 billion global refinancing and restructuring of facilities owed by over 20 entities in the group with 8 major banks;
- Part of the team that advised a borrower on its \$1, 950, 000 Billion long term financing under an FTSA of a producing acreage with over 2 billion proven reserves of crude oil.

**CAPITAL MARKETS, M & A & ANTI-TRUST**

- Acted as Solicitors to the Trustee in the in relation to the N10.5 Billion private bond issuance guaranteed by Niger State Government Of Nigeria;
- Acted as Solicitors to the Issue in the in relation to the N13.2 Billion private bond issuance guaranteed by Niger State Government Of Nigeria;
- Acted as Solicitors to the Fund in the United Capital Asset Management \$ 3 Million Global Fixed Income Fund;
- Part of the team that advised Seplat Energy Plc on its global IPO and dual listing of its \$550 Million shares on the London and Nigeria Stock Exchanges;
- Acted as Solicitors to the Fund in the United Capital Asset Management N1Billion Sukuk Fund to be listed on the Nigerian Stock Exchange;
- Advised Transcorp Hotels Plc on its tranching N30 billion fixed rate bond issuance programme;
- Advised on a Commercial Note transaction that successfully raised \$50 Million for project collaboration in the Energy sector.

**ENERGY AND MINERAL RESOURCES (UPSTREAM, MID-STREAM AND DOWN-STREAM)**

- Advised Neconde Energy Limited on its USD \$ 36 million and 24 million Hedging Policies and Agreements with Glencore Commodities Limited (One of the GT top global bulk traders) in 2016 and 2019.Negotiated Hedging strategy, pricing, tenure, transaction structure, other commercial and legal terms;
- Advised an EPC operator on a USD \$30 million OB3 pipeline project awarded by NNPC;
- Advised a number of service companies on their alliance arrangements with multinational service Companies in satisfaction of Nigerian Content Policy;
- Advised on diverse investment, divestment and participation in oil and gas businesses, covering start-up



formalities, corporate governance advisory, land acquisition, procurement of permits and licences, tax and capital planning, Doing Business Advisory, and Governance and Compliance matters.

## **INSOLVENCY, DEBT RECOVERY & RESTRUCTURING**

- Part of the team that acted as Transactional solicitor and due diligence adviser to AMCON regarding a debt equity swap transaction as a workout option for a N75 billion debt owed by a Telco in Nigeria;
- Advising an energy conglomerate on its efficiency – driven corporate restructuring of over 20 affiliated entities with combined balance sheet of over \$3 Billion;
- Advised Grant Thornton LP on its rights and strategy towards enforcement of an international bank's rights in an energy entity arising from a \$250 Million facility.
- Acting for a preferred bidder for the take-over of controlling stake in an aviation Company via a leveraged buyout of majority shareholder with a view to settling the debts of the entity.

## **TAX ADVISORY SERVICES**

- Part of a team that advised a financial institution in respect of its tax liabilities claim on PPTA from the FIRS to the value of N1.1 Billion Naira and presently representing it in a proceeding;
- Provided Legal/Tax opinion on FIRS on stamp duties of USD \$80 million claims relating to acreage acquisition transaction;
- Advised an E&P entity on an \$101 Million PPT claims from the FIRS resulting to a successful rebuttal.

## **B. ARBITRATION, MEDIATION, ADR AND LITIGATION EXPERIENCE**

- Acted as Counsel in a negotiated settlement of \$12 Million pipeline contract claim and counter claim involving Nestoil vs SPDC;
- Acted as Counsel in a \$20 Million arbitration between Drillog Petro-Dynamics Limited and Gobowen Exploration and Production Limited, over claims for breach of drilling contracts and unpaid invoices with contractual interest. The matter was settled with a confidential consent award entered by the Tribunal;
- Represented a mid-stream service company in an action against an IOC for calling in A \$13 Million bank guarantee and canceling an ongoing pipeline project;
- Team member of Plaintiff Counsel in an action for recovery of circa \$50 million claimed in respect of an Operation and Maintenance (O&M) Contract for a producing oil block;
- Representing a financial institution in a claim seeking to enforce its right as a Secured Creditor in respect of a debt of almost N7 Billion Naira;
- Representing a financial institution in a claim seeking to enforce its right as a Secured Creditor in respect of a debt of almost N6.5 Billion Naira;
- Successfully represented a client in a N70 billion claim by 74 ex-staff in respect of an alleged breach;
- Representing a financial institution in respect of a suit instituted by 287 ex-staff on a claim of about N10 billion for alleged breach of their employment contract;
- Represented the independent National Electoral Commission (INEC) in a gubernatorial, a Federal House of Representative and State House of Assembly election disputes arising from the 2019 general elections;
- Represented the Independent Electoral Commission ("INEC") in 18 election petition appeals arising from



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the 2011 and 2015 Gubernatorial, State House of Assembly and National Assembly Elections in Ogun, Oyo, Lagos and Plateau State from the Election Tribunals up to the final appeal level;

- Represented a group of management personnel of a Bank charged for alleged criminality arising from their handling a private placement and underwriting.



# PROFILE

## Joshua Akhator ACTI, MCI Arb Director

joshua.akhator@alliancelawfirm.ng

Joshua Akhator is the head of Tax and corporate commercial practice at Alliance Law Firm. He is a renowned legal and tax expert with over 17 years of experience in providing legal services that are required for corporate commercial matters, oil and gas transactions, mergers and acquisitions, advisory, restructuring, tax planning, data protection and compliance. He has worked closely with various oil and gas institutions and tax authorities in Nigeria. He has handled various portfolios and advised numerous clients on relevant legal considerations for corporate commercial transactions, oil and gas transactions, tax issues, data protection compliance and many other applicable laws and regulations.



He was called to the Nigerian Bar Association in 2009 and he has worked with leading law firms and top advisory/professional services firms in Nigeria.

He is a chartered tax practitioner certified by the Chartered Institute of Taxation of Nigeria. He is also a member of the Association of International Energy Negotiators (AIEN), the Centre for Petroleum Information (CPI) and Nigerian Institute of Chartered Arbitrators. He has worked closely with various regulatory authorities and has been involved in numerous policy formulations in Nigeria. Before joining Alliance Law Firm, Joshua worked with other tax advisory and professional services firms in Nigeria including WTS Adebisi & Associates and Andersen Nigeria. He has also written many articles in law journals. He also features as a commentator on National issues. He edited several volumes of the Tax Law Report of Nigeria.

### EDUCATION

- University of East London, Master of Laws (LLM) (2024)
- Nigerian Law School – Barrister at Law (BL), Second Class Upper (2008/2009)
- University of Benin, Bachelor of Laws (LLB) (2003 - 2008)
- Edokpolor Grammar School, Senior Secondary School Certificate (1997 - 2002)

### PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIP

- Nigeria Bar Association (NBA)
- International Bar Association (IBA)
- Association of International Energy Negotiators (AIEN)
- Centre for Petroleum Information (CPI)
- Chartered Institute of Taxation of Nigeria
- Certified Arbitrator – Nigerian Institute of Chartered Arbitrators (NICARB)
- Oil and Gas & Energy Law (OGEL) Forum
- World Tax Services (WTS)
- The Privacy Academy
- Certified Information Privacy Manager (CIPM)- International Association of Privacy Professionals (IAPP)
- Business Recovery & Insolvency Practitioners Association of Nigeria (BRIPAN)
- Chartered Tax Consultant – Chartered Institute of Taxation of Nigeria (CITN)





## **PRACTICE AREA**

- Oil and Gas
- Corporate & Commercial Practice
- Tax Advisory Services
- Litigation & Dispute Resolution
- Privacy and Data Protection
- Tax Audit Management
- Legal and Regulatory Compliance
- Energy and Infrastructure
- Tax Planning and Compliance
- Transfer Pricing

## **PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE**

### **A. November 2022 to Date - Alliance Law Firm (Associate Partner)**

- Currently the coordinator and team lead in providing legal and company secretarial services to the Board of Trustees of the NNPC/HHOG JV OML 17 Host Community Development Trust.
- Advised on all aspects of petroleum contracting and negotiations including Drilling, Rig Supply and Management, Catering, Manning, Off-take, Crude Handling, etc.
- Routinely advise oil and gas companies on various operating and commercial arrangement such as JOA, modified JOA, JV, PSA, Crude handling, Forward Sale, Transfer and assignment of interests, Ministerial consent, Field management, Technical services (TSA), Operating and Management (O&M) arrangement, Hydrocarbon Transportation (pipelines, barging, evacuation), Vessel Nomination and Charter, Community
- Extensive consultancy on the several aspects of the new Petroleum Industry Act including governance, commercial, fiscal and legal regimes; and routinely spoken on and advised on policies relating to Energy laws and policies in Nigeria at for a including Petroleum Clubs, CPI, ESQ Training, In-house trainings, etc.
- Routinely advise a major Fintech Company operating in Nigeria on issues bordering on compliance with CBN regulations, guidelines and circulars.
- Conducted a data protection and privacy audit on a major Fintech Company operating in Nigeria as a Payment Solution Service Provider.
- Routinely represents a top fintech company in Nigeria before law enforcement agencies including the Nigeria Police Force, Economic and Financial Crimes Commission and investigating committees of the CBN.
- Drafted and negotiated Technology and Services Agreement under which a payment service provider is to provide payment facilitation services to enable a ride-hailing company accept payment from various channels from its customers and users.
- Provided Data Protection Compliance Services to major Fintech companies operating in Nigeria.
- Regularly provides Legal Opinions to one of the licensed Mobile Network Operators on a wide range of matters bordering on telecommunications service, Data Protection, Transfer Pricing consideration, group business reorganisation amongst others.
- Represented a major oil and gas company at the Tax Appeal Tribunal in respect of a N400M Tax liability claim by the FIRS.
- Represented an Indigenous E & P Company in respect of its tax liabilities claim on Petroleum Profit Tax Assessment issued by the FIRS.
- Provided tax advisory guidance in respect of a Directional Drilling/ Measurement While Drilling/ Logging while Drilling SERVICES Contract.
- Provided Legal/Tax opinion in a \$640M financing transaction to an E & P Company;
- Provided tax advisory services in respect of engineering, procurement and construction contracts for the construction of export pipeline.
- Advised a major oil and gas producing company on tax-saving options available to it in the US\$470 million upsized to US\$720 million secured reserve-based lending from a syndicate of foreign and local Banks.
- Advised a fintech start-up on a US\$640 Million corporate loan transaction on diverse strategies and impacts of corporate tax avoidance on the price and non-price terms of its loans.
- Reviewed existing business structures of a leading manufacturing company to improve operational effi-





## **ALLIANCE LAW FIRM**

ciencies and optimize tax planning. The company was provided with options on offshore re-organization, the tax and regulatory considerations in other relevant jurisdictions and legally available tax planning tools.

- Provided legal and tax due diligence services on the acquisition of power-generating companies in Nigeria.
- Provided a financial technology firm located in Delaware, United States of America, with operational model optimization services and advisory services on several tax and legal issues.
- Assisted holding companies in Nigeria with obtaining the requisite approval from FIRS pursuant to Section 29 of the Companies Income Tax Act.
- Assisted the Managing Director of a real estate investment company with estate planning and private client services.
- Provided holding companies in Nigeria with operational model optimization services and advisory services on several tax and legal issues.
- Provided tax advisory services to a leading financial advisory and asset management company with respect to the merger of two of its subsidiaries and identified potential tax exposures and quantified the tax assets to be transferred to the enlarged entity.
- Assisted a holding company with obtaining a ruling on exemption from excess dividend tax rule from the Federal Inland Revenue Service.
- Assisted a leading manufacturing firm in Nigeria with processing an application for exemption from the commencement and cessation rule pursuant to Section 29 of the Companies Income Tax Act.
- Provided tax advisory service and implementation support on an EPC Contract executed in Nigeria.
- Provided tax due diligence services to an upstream oil and gas company on the acquisition of a Jetty and other heavy-duty equipment in Nigeria.
- Represented an upstream oil and gas company in a tax dispute with the Federal Inland Revenue Service on the issue of tax deductibility of gas flaring penalties.
- Provided tax advisory services and tax dispute resolution support for a leading manufacturing company with respect to a tax audit carried out by the Federal Inland Revenue Service.
- Represented an indigenous oil and gas company in a tax dispute with the Federal Inland Revenue Service on excess dividend tax assessment raised by the FIRS on the company.
- Negotiated settlement on behalf of a non-resident holding company, engaged in the business of processing visa applications, with respect to an assessment issued by the FIRS on turnover basis.
- Advised a telecommunications infrastructure provider on whether it is a telecommunications company for the purpose of payment of the National Information Technology Development Levy.
- Reviewed a Software Licence and Technical Services Agreement between a Nigerian betting company and a foreign betting company under which the foreign entity is to provide its software and technical solutions to the Nigerian entity.
- Provided Transfer Pricing services for Non-Resident Companies
- Review of JOAs and other contracts in the Oil and Gas sector
- Conducting Due Diligence in relation to the proposed acquisition of Afam Power and Afam Fast II Power facilities by a major business consortium headquartered in Nigeria.
- Acted as solicitors to the Trustees in the establishment of the N15 Billion Bond Issuance Programme a manufacturing and hospitality consortium operating in Nigeria.
- Advise data controllers on cross-border data transfers, data processing agreements, and developing internal data privacy policies.
- Advise legal entities on the current legal obligations and ancillary risks of Artificial Intelligence, internet law, and technology laws across various jurisdictions
- Advise business entities on copyright and trademark obligations and rights; prepare cease and desist requests.
- Drafted and Vetted Commercial and Contractual Documents; including Privacy Policies, Software Licensing Agreements, Deeds of Assignment, and Software Development Agreements.
- Conduct research on developing data privacy trends in various parts of the globe and draft legal opinions for businesses on data privacy obligations.
- Prepare necessary data protection documentation, opinions, and reports on standards to multinational data controllers and data processors to support management decisions and enquiries; and ensure that business operations are fully compliant with the NDPR, GDPR and other sector-specific data protection



regulations.

- Prepare Record of Processing Activities, Data Map and Data Flow for clients.
- Provide specialist guidance to multinationals to ensure compliance with the NDPR, GDPR, and other data protection regulatory issues / best practices for the delivery of business goals while minimizing the possibility of data breach, mitigating exposure in the event of data breach, and creating data privacy and trust culture within business organizations.
- Organize training for employees of data controllers on data protection policies, procedures, practices, and techniques, equipping them with the knowledge and skills to safeguard all customers' personal data.
- Create Privacy programs and strategies using global standard frameworks such as the NIST Secure Controls Framework etc.
- Conducted research in a global team on national AI policies and practices.
- Assessed Artificial Intelligence policy instruments.
- Analyzed the overlap of artificial intelligence and data privacy compliance.

**B. Faculty Member – The Privacy Academy**

- Training Professionals in Privacy and Data Protection Compliance.

**C. July 2017 to October 2022 – Andersen Tax LP ( Legal and Tax Consultant)**

- Advise data controllers on cross-border data transfers, data processing agreements, and developing internal data privacy policies.
- Advise legal entities on the current legal obligations and ancillary risks of Artificial Intelligence, internet law, and technology laws across various jurisdictions
- Advise business entities on copyright and trademark obligations and rights; prepare cease and desist requests.
- Drafted and Vetted Commercial and Contractual Documents; including Privacy Policies, Software Licensing Agreements, Deeds of Assignment, and Software Development Agreements.
- Advised a fintech start-up on a US\$640 Million corporate loan transaction on diverse strategies and impacts of corporate tax avoidance on the price and non-price terms of its loans.
- Reviewed existing business structures of a leading manufacturing company to improve operational efficiencies and optimize tax planning. The company was provided with options on offshore re-organization, the tax and regulatory considerations in other relevant jurisdictions and legally available tax planning tools.
- Provided legal and tax due diligence services on the acquisition of power-generating companies in Nigeria.
- Provided a financial technology firm located in Delaware, United States of America, with operational model optimization services and advisory services on several tax and legal issues.
- Assisted holding companies in Nigeria with obtaining the requisite approval from FIRS pursuant to Section 29 of the Companies Income Tax Act.
- Assisted the Managing Director of a real estate investment company with estate planning and private client services.
- Provided holding companies in Nigeria with operational model optimization services and advisory services on several tax and legal issues.
- Provided tax advisory services to a leading financial advisory and asset management company with respect to the merger of two of its subsidiaries and identified potential tax exposures and quantified the tax assets to be transferred to the enlarged entity.
- Assisted a holding company with obtaining a ruling on exemption from excess dividend tax rule from the Federal Inland Revenue Service.
- Assisted a leading manufacturing firm in Nigeria with processing an application for exemption from the commencement and cessation rule pursuant to Section 29 of the Companies Income Tax Act.
- Provided tax advisory service and implementation support on an EPC Contract executed in Nigeria.
- oil and gas company in a tax dispute with the Federal Inland Revenue Service on excess dividend tax as-



assessment raised by the FIRS on the company.

- Negotiated settlement on behalf of a non-resident holding company, engaged in the business of processing visa applications, with respect to an assessment issued by the FIRS on turnover basis.

**D. 2009 to June 2017 - WTS Adebiyi & Associates, Osborne Estate, Ikoyi, Lagos State (Counsel/Solicitor)**

- Providing Litigation Support Services
- Providing Dispute Resolution Services
- Client representation before courts, tribunals, government agencies, international institutions etc.
- Tax Advisory services
- Transfer Pricing services for Non-Resident Companies
- Review of JOAs and other contracts in the Oil and Gas sector
- Corporate Structuring Advisory Services
- Conducting Due Diligence
- Review of legislations for Corporate Bodies and the National Assembly
- Writing Legal Opinion.

**E. 2009 – 2011 Aeta Publishers, Osborne Estate, Ikoyi, Lagos State (Editor/Legal Adviser)**

- Reporting Decided Court Cases
- Editing Tax Law Report
- Acting as Legal Adviser/Company Secretary

**PUBLICATIONS**

- Numerous Articles on topical issues accessible on Mondaq, Gravitas, Andersen Nigeria's website and Alliance Law firm's Website
- Tax Law Journal Vol. 1
- Tax Law Report of Nigeria Vol. 1 to Vol. 22



# PROFILE

## David Chijioke Maduka Director of Litigation

david.chijioke@alliancelawfirm.ng

The Director of Litigation in the Firm's Abuja branch office, covering North-Central, North-West and North-East Nigeria. He is in the Dispute Resolution Practice group. He has a National Diploma (N.D.) in Law from the University of Abuja. He obtained his LL.B (Hons) from the University of Jos and BL from the Nigerian Law School.



He has consistently been in active practice especially in the area of Land Law, Debt Recovery, Recovery of Premises, Election Petition, Fundamental Human Rights, Criminal Law, Intellectual Properties Law, Corporate/Commercial law, Oil and Gas, Maritime, Matrimonial, Labour Laws e.t.c. He has successfully handled many cases in various state High Courts, Federal High Courts, National Industrial Court of Nigeria, Customary Court of Appeal, Customary Courts, Magistrate/District Courts, Tribunals, Election Petition Tribunals, Court of Appeal and has appeared alone and as a supporting Counsel in the Supreme court. He has successfully concluded matters for Multinational companies especially those in the Real Estate Industry, Oil and Gas sector, Banks and financial Institutions, big Businessmen and other Individuals in Court and through Alternative Dispute Resolution. He ensured the recovery of a massive multi-billion Naira Garden which was to be forfeited to the Federal Government of Nigeria through the Economic and Financial Crimes Commission (E.F.C.C.) by a Judgment of the Federal High Court, Coram Hon. Justice C. ... Maha. He has won several Judgments in Land matters, Debt Recovery, Recovery of Premises, e.t.c. and has enforced many Court Judgments to ensure that the Judgment Creditor reaps the fruit of his victory.

### EDUCATION

- University of Jos (LL.B Hons)
- Nigerian Law school (BL)
- University of Abuja (LL.M and N.D. Law)
- International Arbitration and Dispute Resolution Institute (Certificate)
- Word of Faith Bible Institute (WOFBI) – B.C.C., L.C.C. and L.D.C.

### PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIP

- Nigeria Bar Association
- International Arbitration and Dispute Resolution Institute (Member)

### PRACTICE AREA

- Land Law
- Recovery of Premises
- Fundamental Human Rights
- Intellectual Properties Law
- Oil and Gas
- Matrimonial
- Debt Recovery
- Election Petition
- Criminal Law
- Corporate/Commercial law
- Maritime
- Labour/Employment Laws

# PROFILE

## Johnson Agwu

### Director

johnson.agwu@alliancelawfirm.ng

Johnson Agwu is a director and leader in the Firm's Dispute Resolution (Litigation, Mediation and Arbitration) Practice. He performs responsibilities under the firm's Commercial, Transaction, Consultancy, and Publication Practice Areas. Johnson has in the last 13 years gained valuable experience from tier one law firms in Nigeria and the UK acting for and against private and public, local and international clientele in contentious and non-contentious matters of varied complexities.



Some of these matters involve Trusts, Litigation, Arbitration, Corporate Debt Recovery, Insolvency, Restructuring and Reconstruction, Intellectual Property, Aviation and Maritime, Energy, Natural Resources, Environmental, Competition, Corporate, Employment, Property, Finance, Capital Market and Commercial Laws. They make him versatile and highly capable. With his in-depth knowledge, extensive experience, and commitment to achieving favorable outcomes for clients, Johnson Agwu is an asset to any legal team. Clients can rely on Johnson Agwu's expertise, professionalism, and commitment to delivering exceptional legal services. His comprehensive understanding of Nigerian law, combined with his ability to handle complex legal issues, makes him a trusted advisor and advocate.

Johnson was called to the Nigerian Bar in January 2012, inducted into the Institute of Chartered Mediators and Conciliators in October same year and became an Associate of the Business Recovery and Insolvency Practitioners Association of Nigeria (BRIPAN) as well as Chartered Institute of Arbitrators (UK) in 2015 and 2018 respectively. Johnson has served as the pioneer director of administration of International Law Association, and later as the Secretary General of International Law Association (Nigerian Branch). He also served as the Assistant Secretary of BRIPAN during which he organised over 6 annual events of the ILA Nig. He is a member of the Lagos Court of Arbitration- Young Arbitrators Network (LCA-YAN) and London Court of International Arbitration (LCIA).

Johnson routinely acts for the indigent and oppressed victims of police brutality. He litigates for them or sponsors their representation. Many of his works are done through Rule of Law and Accountability Advocacy Centre.

He regularly features as a public affairs analyst with television stations and on social media.

### EDUCATION

- University of Nigeria (LLB)
- Nigerian Law School (BL)
- University of Lagos (LLM)
- Centre for Canadian Legal Education



## **ACCREDITATIONS TO PRACTICE**

- JAN 2012 - CALL TO THE NIGERIAN BAR
- JUNE 2012- CORPORATE AFFAIRS COMMISSION DEALING AGENT
- OCT 2012 - CHARTERED MEDIATOR AND CONCILIATOR
- 2018 - CHARTERED ARBITRATOR (MEMBERSHIP NO: 38828)
- 2021 - INSOLVENCY PRACTITIONER (AIP/2021/053)

## **PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIP**

- Nigerian Bar Association
- International Law Association
- Chartered Institute of Arbitrators (UK)
- Business Recovery and Insolvency Practitioners Association of Nigeria
- Chartered Institute of Mediators and Conciliators

## **PRACTICE AREA**

- Corporate & Commercial Practice
- Litigation & Dispute Resolution
- Insolvency
- Environment and Planning
- Employment Litigation
- Legal and Regulatory
- Energy and Natural Resources
- Infrastructure
- Tax Litigation, Advisory and Compliance Services

## **LITIGATION EXPERIENCE**

- *Ibru v Ibru*- Will Action- Will contest and extent of estate.
- *Ibru v Omamo Trust*- Domination of Trust and Abuse of Trust
- *Cacktok & Anor v Diamond Bank Plc & Anor* – Advised in transaction pre-litigation and represented during negotiation and litigation, the second Defendant purchaser for value without notice from a mortgagee bank whose power of sale has arisen.
- *Mike Ade Properties v Owelle Chikelu & Ors*- Public property disposal powers must not be exercised whimsically, bidding guidelines must be complied with, bidders must be financially qualified, public officer cannot waive any requirement for a particular bidder (surreptitiously) which waiver was not extended to other bidders.



- **Moyo Kamgaing v Ecobank & Anor-** Employment dispute. Redundancy. Dual employment with two related employers located across different countries.
- **Jedidiah Air Ltd v Captain Alvarez & Anor-** Employment dispute. Indemnity for training expenses, etc
- **Oni v Cadbury (SHC, CA and Supreme Court)-** Employment of a managing director, wrongful dismissal of managing director, and the proper forum for litigation of removal of director.
- **Okeke v Cadbury (FHC)-** executive and non executive directors owe equal statutory and common law duties the companies they sit on their boards, a director sanctioned for failure to perform duty owed to company by regulator is not entitled to damages from company, tenure of director can be terminated by resignation or by Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC")'s intervention. Where any of the termination events have taken place, the company does not need to conduct the removal of directors proceedings. Company's notification of removal to CAC is not itself the removal. Company cannot be liable for the removal order by SEC even if SEC's removal order turns out to be wrongful.
- **Okeke v Cadbury (SHC)-** Misrepresentation by company to director, damages and extent of damages.
- **Oni v Cadbury-** only the Federal High Court has powers to entertain questions of wrongful removal of directors. Company would be liable to director for misrepresentations made to the director before the director joined company's board if such misrepresentation influenced the decision of the director to join the board and such joining caused a damage to the director.
- **Warmspring & Ors v Federal Inland Revenue Service-** No Value Added Tax on table water.
- **UAC v Federal Inland Revenue Service-** companies not liable to additional assessment to tax on their income simply because the bulk of their income came from franked investment income in any given year. Franked Investment Incomes are incomes which have suffered tax at the rate of 10% and it would amount to double taxation to impose additional tax on them.
- **Stanbic IBTC v FRC & NOTAP** registration is not required for export of technology from Nigeria and the only penalty for failure to register imported technology is that foreign exchange from official sources would not be used to pay for it.
- **Transocean & Ors v NIMASA –** Oil Drilling rigs are not vessels used for transportation and are not engaged in Cabotage trade and are not liable to Cabotage Surcharge.
- **Meridien SAS v Abuja Int'l Hotel-** foreign companies can sue in Nigeria without first registering, Federal High Court of Nigeria can entertain judgment enforcement proceedings in Nigeria and the subject matter that led to a judgment is not relevant for the purpose of determining whether Federal High Court can entertain it.
- **UBA v Meridien SAS & Ors-** Garnishee who swore false affidavit to show cause has not proven why the garnishee order nisi should be discharged. Order absolute could be made against it. It is not the job of garnishee to relitigate the propriety of judgment on the basis of which garnishee orders were issued.
- **NIMASA v Transocean & Ors –** even a public body must comply with conditions and timeline of appeal and extension of time can only be granted if cogent and recondite reasons are provided.
- **Syndicated Investments Ltd v NITEL Trustees in Liquidation-** contract, competitive bidding rules and measure of damages.



## **ALLIANCE LAW FIRM**

- **Re BGL Plc Winding Up-** Winding Up of parent company which used subsidiary as conduit and ponzi and subsequently undertook to repay subsidiary's debt is possible for the debt in the name of the subsidiary.
- **Vestor Properties Ltd v Net Construct-** Winding Up Petition may issue even irrespective of the nature of the underlying debt.
- **Vestor Properties Ltd v Vimedia-** Winding Petition can issue irrespective of arbitration clause in the underlying contract. Verifying Affidavit sworn by any officer of the company with authority on behalf of the company is usable. Defect in verifying affidavit does not invalidate a winding up petition.
- **Intercity Commodities Ltd & Anor v Petroleo Brasileiro-** Trusts.
- **Project Eagle Air Ltd v Execujet Aviation Group & Ors-** Aircraft maintenance contract, negligent repairs, etc.
- **Part of counsel team in 13 LCIA international arbitrations, one ICC International Arbitration, and many ad hoc references under the UNCITRAL or other rules.** These are not listed in this CV for reasons of privacy.





# PROFILE

## Blessing Ajunwo-Choko

### Director

[blessing.ajunwo-choko@alliancelawfirm.ng](mailto:blessing.ajunwo-choko@alliancelawfirm.ng)

Blessing Ajunwo-Choko is a resourceful, diligent, and results-oriented lawyer with a keen ability to untangle complex legal and transactional issues. She leads the firm's Company Secretarial and Compliance Team, the Intellectual Property, Media, Entertainment, and Sports Team, and also serves as the firm's Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) Compliance Officer.

**A Certified Data Protection Compliance Officer (DPCO), Blessing combines technical expertise with strategic insight.**



Before joining Alliance Law Firm, she served at the Bayelsa State Ministry of Justice, where she received an award for hard work and diligence.

She plays a pivotal role in the firm's Corporate and Commercial, Capital Markets, and Company Secretarial practice groups, contributing to numerous landmark transactions. An Associate Member of the Institute of Chartered Secretaries and Administrators of Nigeria (ICSAN), Blessing's career is marked by both professional excellence and service to the legal community.

She has held notable leadership positions, including Financial Secretary and Treasurer of the Capital Market Solicitors Association (CMSA), Secretary of the NBA-SBL International Trade Law Committee, and currently serves as Assistant Secretary of the NBA-SBL Capital Market Committee. She is also a member of the Copyright – International & Legislative Subcommittee of the International Trademark Association (INTA).

Her voluntary service extends to her role as Chairperson of the Programmes Subcommittee of the Planning Committee of ICSAN's Corporate Governance Summit.

As a Director in the firm's Corporate and Commercial Practice Group, Blessing's expertise spans Corporate Commercial Law, Corporate Finance, Capital Market Restructurings, Business Establishment, Company Secretarial Practice, Corporate Governance & Compliance, Data Protection, and Intellectual Property, Media, Entertainment, and Technology Law.

### EDUCATION

- Rivers State University (LLB)
- Nigerian Law School (BL)
- University of South Wales (LLM)

### PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIP

- Nigerian Bar Association
- Nigeria Bar Association - Section of Business Law
- Institute of Chartered Secretaries and Administrators of Nigeria
- Financial Reporting Council of Nigeria
- International Trademark Association
- International Bar Association
- BRIPAN



**ALLIANCE LAW FIRM**

## **PRACTICE AREA**

- Corporate Commercial
- Capital Market
- Intellectual Property, Entertainment, Media, and Technology Law Practice
- Company Secretarial and Regulatory Compliance
- Venture Capital
- Data Protection

## **PROFESSIONAL POSITIONS HELD**

- Financial Secretary- Capital Market Solicitors Association: 2019-2021
- Treasurer- Capital Market Solicitors Association: 2021-2023
- Secretary NBA- SBL International Trade Law Committee: 2019- 2023
- Assistant Secretary: NBA-SBL Capital Market Committee, Present
- Chairperson, Programs Subcommittee, Planning Committee of the Institute of Chartered Secretaries and Administrators of Nigeria (ICSAN)



# PROFILE

**Ngozi Chinwa Ole, Ph.D.**

**Director**

ngozi.ole@alliancelawfirm.ng

Ngozi Chinwa Ole is a specialist in Renewable Energy, Petroleum, Electricity, Water, Environment and international investment law. She is a dedicated consultant, an astute researcher, a prolific writer, a notable scholar and practitioner with a sphere of influence that cuts across several continents, including Africa, Asia, Europe, and North and South America. Against this background, she was recently authorized by Routledge, Taylor and Francis Inc to lead international research on off-grid renewable electricity regulatory support system. She was part of a team that advised the Ambassade Du Togo, London, United Kingdom, on their Green Climate Change Fund Application. Ngozi is affiliated with several research centres in the world, including the African Centre of Excellence for Water and Environmental Research (ACEWATER), and the International Energy Law Training and Research Centre, Trinidad and Tobago. She routinely provides training and research on diverse themes in energy and natural resources law.



Ngozi is a Senior Lecturer, Acting Head- Department of Public Law and Director of Clinical Legal Education, Federal University, Oye-Ekiti, Nigeria. She is currently the National Publicity Secretary of the Association of Environmental Lawyers of Nigeria (AELN). Her addiction to excellence in service has made her a recipient of several international awards and grants including, the AIPN 2018 Conference Scholarship Award, Recognition of Excellence in Service as the President of AIPN Club, University of Aberdeen, Scotland, Elphinstone Scholarship Award, International Ambassador of Peace Award, and NULAI/Open Society Initiative Grant on Clinical Legal Education. She has been part of the teaching team for several courses, including energy law at the University of Aberdeen, Scotland; Tort Law, University of West Indies, Trinidad and Tobago; Environmental Law, Redeemers University, Nigeria etc.

Her publications cut across various themes in energy law, including decommissioning of petroleum installations, health and safety of persons in the petroleum industry, local content, off-grid renewable energy, and environmental protection in the petroleum industry some of which are featured in various international journals, including the Journal of World Energy Law and Business (JWELB), the International Bar Association (IBA)-Journal of Energy and Natural Resources Law (JENRL), Oil, Gas and Energy Law (OGEL).

## EDUCATION

- University of Aberdeen, Scotland (Ph.D.)
- University of Aberdeen, Scotland (LL.M.)
- Nigerian Law School (BL, Hons)
- Ebonyi State University (First Class Honours, LL.B.)

## PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIP

- Nigerian Bar Association
- Association of International Energy Negotiators (AIEN)
- Society of Petroleum Engineers (SPE)
- Oil and Gas & Energy Law (OGEL) Forum
- Network of University Legal Aid Institutions (NULAI)
- Global Alliance for Justice Education (GAJE)
- Society of International Economic Lawyers (SIEL)
- Association of Environmental Lawyers of Nigeria (AELN)

## PRACTICE AREA

- Oil and Gas
- Energy Investments
- Dispute Resolution
- Tortious Liabilities
- Electricity Law

# PROFILE

## **Mohammed Sanusi** **Managing Associate**

sanusi.muhammed@alliancelawfirm.ng

Muhammad is a Senior Associate with Alliance Law Firm. He is a young dynamic lawyer with an excellent track record of accomplishments in legal practice. He is a member of the Corporate/Commercial Transactions and Litigation Practice Group.



He has experience in different areas of law and practice such as Litigation, Arbitration & Alternative Dispute Resolution, Corporate & Commercial Practice, Debt Recovery, Drafting Contracts and other Commercial Transactions, Land Perfection, Real Estate/Property Management and Company Secretarial Services

### **EDUCATION**

- Bayero University, Kano (LLB HONS.)
- Nigerian Law School, Lagos (BL. HONS.)
- Bayero University, Kano (Masters in Business & Commercial Law)

### **PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIP**

- Nigerian Bar Association
- International Bar Association (IBA)

### **PRACTICE AREA**

- Litigation
- Arbitration and Alternative Dispute Resolution.
- Debt Recovery
- Corporate and Commercial Practices
- Land Perfection, Real Estate/Property Management
- Company secretarial services

### **AWARDS & RECOGNITION**

- Ownership of Mineral Resources within the Continental Shelf of Nigeria 2006 (Research Project).

# PROFILE

## Ayo Olaifa Managing Associate

ayo.olaifa@alliancelawfirm.ng

Ayo is a highly skilled and accomplished Legal Practitioner with about 13 years of experience in providing effective, efficient and realistic legal counsel and representation. Adept in navigating complex legal landscapes and delivering favourable outcomes for clients across a diverse range of cases or matters. Possesses a proven track record of success in litigation, negotiation, and alternative dispute resolution. Demonstrated sound expertise in drafting skills, contract law, corporate governance, intellectual property, and employment matters. Excellent communicator, able to build strong rapport or relationships with clients and colleagues alike. Committed to upholding the highest ethical standards while tenaciously advocating for the best interests of clients. Seeking to continue a significant impact in the legal or related fields by delivering unwavering dedication and expertise to new challenges and opportunities. She is a consultant and senior fellow of the Forensic studies of Nigeria. Charity is a Copyright expert from Harvard University



She is actively involved in the Firm's dispute resolution & Corporate Commercial Practice. Her passion for practice and dispute resolution dates back to her service year when she was a host for a Television Programme, "The Law and you"; a programme where members of the general public were taught the art of Law, and the whole essence of Law was made simple for the common man to understand and apply. Her vast experience cuts across all legal fields including Banking, Labour Related Matters, Maritime, Real Estate, General Corporate Commercial, among others. Her legal research skill is with a big difference as she can conduct searches in all aspects of law and come out with principles that can be of great help in handling legal matters. She constantly advises and represents clients in different areas of law before various Courts and Tribunal in Nigeria. Her quick ability to dissect and proffer workable legal solutions has helped in resolving several legal issues. She is one of the contributors to the World Bank Doing Business Report. She has actively taken part in debt recovery of huge amounts belonging to notable banks and has successfully participated in winding up proceedings. She is a creative individual with great problem-solving skills. She is hardworking, resourceful and possesses good team spirit and communication skills

### EDUCATION

- Nexford University, Washington (MBA)
- University of Ado-Ekiti (LLB Hons)
- Nigerian Law School, Lagos (BL. HONS.)

### PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIP

- Nigerian Bar Association
- International Bar Association (IBA)
- International Law Association (ILO)
- Chattered Forensic Consultants Association of Nigeria
- Security and Forensic Studies, Nigeria
- Chattered Institute of Arbitrators

### PRACTICE AREA

- Litigation
- Arbitration and Alternative Dispute Resolution.
- Debt Recovery
- Corporate and Commercial Practices
- Land Perfection, Real Estate/Property Management
- Company secretarial services
- Labour matters
- Contract

# PROFILE

## **Chiemeka Edwin Choko** **Managing Associate**

edwin.choko@alliancelawfirm.ng

Edwin is a Managing Associate with the firm with over 17 years' experience in the legal profession. He works excellently as a team player and is very effective with time management and responsibilities. He is an essential trial lawyer who has years of experience in writing legal opinions and advising clients on various aspects of law.



These areas of experience in trial advocacy centers around various aspects of law which include Civil & Criminal Litigation, Property Law & Consultancy, Dispute Resolution, Debt Recovery, Insolvency, Law of Contracts & Commercial Law, Family Law, Constitutional Law, Law of Bequests, among other areas.

Edwin conveys a strong will to research, advice, negotiate and execute actions on various legal transactions in line with the firms resolve for excellent corporate practice.

### **EDUCATION**

- Rivers State University (LLB)
- Nigerian Law School (BL)

### **PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIP**

- Nigerian Bar Association

### **PRACTICE AREA**

- Property Law & Consultancy
- Civil & Criminal Litigation
- Debt Recovery
- Dispute Resolution
- Insolvency
- Law of Contracts & Commercial Law
- Constitutional Law
- Family Law
- Law of Bequests

# PROFILE

## **John Ibe** **Senior Associate**

john.ibe@alliancelawfirm.ng

John is a result oriented and witty young man. He is hardworking, dogged and has a great passion for legal practice. He is a member of the Intellectual property, Entertainment, Media law; and Alternative Dispute Resolution/Litigation Departments of the Firm.



Since his induction into Alliance Law Firm, he has worked effectively with the firm's top-notch Lawyers in the provision of advisory services for Clients and representing their interests in various aspects of Law which include but however not limited to Litigation, Arbitration, Debt Recovery, Intellectual Property development and protection, Trade

Mark & Patent Rights, Arbitration proceedings, general commercial transactions, and so on. A major part of his functions at Alliance Law firm is to project the firm's Intellectual Property, Entertainment and Media Law practice especially in the areas of publishing legal materials.

His specialized fields of practice at the firm are, Litigation, Alternative Dispute Resolution; Intellectual Property, Entertainment and Media Law.

### **EDUCATION**

- Madonna University, Anambra State (LLB)
- Nigerian Law School (BL)

### **PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIP**

- Nigerian Bar Association
- International Bar Association

### **PRACTICE AREA**

- Corporate/Commercial Law
- Alternative Dispute Resolution
- Intellectual Property, Entertainment and Media Law
- Property Law



# PROFILE

## **Lilian Adat** **Senior Associate**

[lilian.adat@alliancelawfirm.ng](mailto:lilian.adat@alliancelawfirm.ng)

Lilian is a Legal Officer in the firm who is success-driven, a good team player, dedicated, resourceful, hardworking and analytical.



Lilian is a lawyer in the firm's corporate, commercial and litigation practice with a specialty in contracts, negotiation and dispute resolution. She also acts as a legal officer for clients involved in oil and gas, fabrication and design, engineering, procurement and commissioning, dry-dock services and labour related matters, and has participated in negotiations in respect of dredging contracts, and also manages host community-related issues. She is skilled in contract drafting, review and regulatory compliance and business relationship management. She is success-driven, analytical, resourceful, a good team player and provides a wide range of advisory services and represents clients in a broad spectrum of the firm's matters.

### **EDUCATION**

- University of Uyo (LLB)
- Nigerian Law School, Enugu (B.L)
- Rivers State University (LLM)

### **PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIP**

- Nigerian Bar Association (NBA)
- Association of Environmental Lawyers of Nigeria (AELN)

### **PRACTICE AREA**

- Corporate and Commercial Law
- Legal Advisory and Regulatory Compliance
- Oil and Gas Law
- Dispute resolution
- Energy and Environmental law

# PROFILE

## **Simbiat Okwilagüe**

### **Executive Associate**

simbi.abubakar@alliancelawfirm.ng

Simbiat is an Associate in the firm's Litigation/ADR practice group. She is a hardworking young lawyer with a passion for excellence. She is a self-motivated, problem-solving resourceful lawyer with a strong skill set.



Her practice area cuts across all legal fields including corporate commercial law, litigation and ADR. She conducts legal research on cases and writes articles to be reviewed for publishing on the firm's website. She is in charge of tracking and reviewing the bills as they progress through the Senate House of Assembly thereby knowing when a bill becomes an Act. She is a very passionate lawyer who advises on areas such as, but not limited to company formation, corporate restructuring, litigation and Alternative Dispute Resolution.

She works closely with senior members of the firm in both the litigation and corporate commercial teams and carries out each task assigned to her with due diligence.

She is a result driven lawyer who is a dedicated team player, prompt and success driven.

### **EDUCATION**

- University of Kent, Canterbury, United Kingdom (BA, Hons)
- Nigeria Law School, Bwari, Abuja (BL, Hons)

### **PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIP**

- Nigerian Bar Association (NBA)
- Young Lawyers Forum

### **PRACTICE AREA**

- Corporate & Commercial Practice
- Dispute Resolution Practise
- Litigation
- Legal Advisory

# PROFILE

## Chibuzoh Ogbenna

### Executive Associate

chibuzoh.ogbenna@alliancelawfirm.ng

Chibuzoh is a diligent and passionate legal practitioner, gifted with a critical and an analytical mind to advice on and deal with different legal issues cutting across different areas of law and with particular interest in civil, criminal, property, labour, ADR, corporate and commercial law practices.



He has advised, worked and assisted in a team that conducted corporate Governance Practice trainings for top organizations like: NNPC Retail Ltd and Veritas Kapital Assurance PLC. He has also prepared legal opinions and participated in meetings and calls with clients on several transactions, as well as other general lawyer's responsibility and duty including but not limited to: drafting and reviewing of court processes, conducting research on legal issues, conducting searches on land and perfection of titles, attendance and appearance in court proceedings on several matters including fundamental human rights, tenancy, debt recovery etc.

He is detail oriented and loves surmounting challenges.

### EDUCATION

- University of Abuja (LLB)
- Nigerian Law School (BL)

### PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIP

- Nigerian Bar Association (NBA)

### PRACTICE AREA

- Litigation
- Corporate and Commercial Practices
- Property Law
- Arbitration and Dispute Resolution
- Debt Recovery

# PROFILE

## **Adedoyin Fadare** **Executive Associate**

doyin.fadare@alliancelawfirm.ng

Adedoyin is a Corporate Technology Attorney specializing in Data Protection & Privacy and Cybersecurity. He is an Associate Member of the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators (CIArb)- North American Branch, and he possesses dual-license to practice law in the Federal Republic of Nigeria and the State of California, U.S.A.



He obtained his Bachelor of Laws (LLB) from Osun State University and graduated with a First Class from the Nigerian Law School. He earned a Master of Laws (LLM) in Privacy & Cybersecurity Law and Business Law Certificate from the University of Southern California and was conferred with the Dean's award for academic excellence.

He possesses wealth of experience in data protection and privacy. He has advised and implemented GDPR, California Consumer Privacy Act (CCPA), California Privacy Rights Act (CPRA), S-Ox, HIPAA for companies both in Nigeria and United States of America. He has also handled the concentrated needs in Intellectual Property, Contract Management, Tech Financing through venture capital & Debt/Equity, Mergers & Acquisitions (M&A), Initial Public Offerings (IPOs), Corporate and Data Governance, trade regulation, Regulatory Compliance, and Government Contracting for tech companies by negotiating, including drafting, meeting and integrating inputs from multiple stakeholders to reach business judgments by complying with the law.

## **EXPERIENCE**

- He has also reviewed many jurisdictions' Data Privacy laws and researched the subject of technology, data protection & privacy, and digital rights.
- Assistant General Secretary of the Intellectual Property Law Association of Nigeria (IPLAN).
- Served as a member of the Brands and Innovation Committee of the International Trademark Association in the USA, where he successfully handled the task of examining and analyzing the relationship between brands/trademarks and innovation.
- Adedoyin has worked on a myriad of legal issues ranging from complex corporate and copyright questions, privacy issues to international freedom of speech issues to mobile development to internal corporate and privacy regulatory compliance.
- Provided legal opinion to a telecommunication company against a fine up to 2% annual gross revenue issued by the Nigeria Data Protection Regulation;
- Provided data protection audit and remediation services for an indigenous E & P Company
- Advised Immigration and Refugee Board of a Country on the international transfer of data and processing of BVN of immigrants for tracking purposes
- Part of the team that reviewed Data Protection Bill, 2020
- Provided legal opinion to a Fintech company on the international transfer of personal data under the Nigeria Data Protection law
- Provided data protection audit and remediation services for medical start up
- Provided risk assessment and data protection audit for an international exploration and production company



## **EDUCATION**

- University of Southern California
- Osun State University
- Nigeria Law School

## **PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIP**

- Nigerian Bar
- State Bar of California
- The Chartered Institute of Arbitrators (CI Arb)- North American Branch

## **AWARDS**

- Director-General's prize for attaining first class at the Nigerian Law School
- Deans Award for Academic Excellence at University of Southern California

## **PRACTICE AREA**

- Privacy and Data Protection
- Cybersecurity

## **PUBLICATIONS**

- An Overview of Data Privacy and Data Protection Law in Nigeria: <http://gravitasreview.com.ng/shop/overview-data-privacy-data-protection-law-nigeria/>
- Key Highlights of the New Regulatory Developments in the License Categorisation for the Nigerian Payment System Framework: <https://alliancelawfirm.ng/key-highlights-of-the-new-regulatory-developments-in-the-license-categorisation-for-the-nigerian-payments-system-framework-regulatory-developments-in-the-license-categorisation/>
- Between The National Information Technology Development Agency (NITDA) Public Advisory and Whatsapp Privacy Policy: <https://alliancelawfirm.ng/between-the-national-information-technology-development-agency-nitda-public-advisory-and-whatsapp-privacy-policy/>
- Distinguishing Intellectual Property Valuation (IPV) From Other Company Assets In Mergers And Acquisition: <https://alliancelawfirm.ng/distinguishing-intellectual-property-valuation-ipv-from-other-company-assets-in-mergers-and-acquisitions/>
- Media Censorship in Nigeria: Implication of the Regulation of Social Media and Digital Rights: <https://aanoip.org/media-censorship-in-nigeria-implication-of-the-regulation-of-social-media-and-digital-rights/>

# PROFILE

## Ahmed D. Sani

### Associate

Ahmed.sani@alliancelawfirm.ng

Ahmed is a logical and resourceful lawyer who effectively anticipates and evaluates legal issues to protect the interest of his clients and resolve disputes. He is a highly-motivated individual, dedicated to providing premium professional services in diverse background roles. He possesses the soft skills and the knowledge to deliver top-notch legal solutions to complex legal issues.



An industrious and versatile lawyer skilled in attentive listening and clear communication to effectively interpret clients' demands, offering efficient and dependable support.

Ahmed possesses exceptional ethics and provides good client services; he is very thorough and has a keen eye for detail.

### EDUCATION

- University of Hertfordshire, Hatfield, United Kingdom (LL.B)
- Nigeria Law School, Bwari, Abuja (BL, Hons)
- University of Manchester, Manchester, United Kingdom (MSc Management)

### PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIP

- Nigerian Bar Association

### PRACTICE AREA

- Banking & Finance
- Capital Markets
- Mergers & Acquisition
- FinTech
- Corporate & Commercial Practice

# PROFILE

## Anastasia Edward Associate

[anastasia.edward@alliancelawfirm.ng](mailto:anastasia.edward@alliancelawfirm.ng)

Anastasia is a remarkable lawyer with admirable skills. She is proficient in research, drafting, policy knowledge, case analysis, and advocacy. She has extensive legal knowledge and a deep understanding of its complexities. She consistently demonstrates meticulous attention to detail and a thoughtful approach to her work, which ensures her high-quality legal counsel.



Anastasia is interested in sustainability, artificial intelligence (AI), and privacy. She also loves writing and networking.

### EDUCATION

- Adeleke University, Osun State (LL.B,Hons)
- Nigerian Law School (BL, Hons)

### PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIP

- Nigerian Bar Association
- International Association of Privacy Professionals
- End Ecocide Nigeria

### PRACTICE AREA

- Dispute Resolution
- Data Protection and Privacy Law
- Energy, Environmental and Natural Resources Law
- Corporate Finance



# PROFILE

## Afam Chukuka

### Associate

afam.chukuka@alliancelawfirm.ng

Ifeanyi is an Associate with Firm's Dispute Resolution, Insolvency practice group, real estate and legal publication team. He is passionate about resolving disputes amicably among aggrieved parties, this has led to his involvement in various dispute resolution forums.



Afam's practice area cuts across litigation, real estate and he also handles legal publication for the firm. His ability to multi task makes him work closely with the senior members of the firm and carry out his duties diligently.

### EDUCATION

- Central University, Ghana (LLB)
- Nigerian Law School (BL, Hons)

### PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIP

- Nigerian Bar Association
- Institute of Chartered Mediators and Conciliators

### PRACTICE AREA

- Litigation
- Arbitration and Alternative Dispute Resolution
- Property law
- Legal Advisory

# PROFILE

## Celestine Ogbonnaya

### Associate

Celestine.ogbonnaya@alliancelawfirm.ng

Celestine is a dedicated, versatile, and detail-oriented legal practitioner. He is adaptable and decisive self-starter with cultivated skills in communication, legal research, analysis and case strategies. Able to integrate in a remote/team setting while championing high quality and value-adding delivery to assigned tasks.



He is an associate in the Dispute Resolution as well as Corporate and Commercial team of the firm. He has been directly involved in complex and high-value litigation proceedings and commercial transactions handled by the firm.

As a dynamic lawyer, his practice areas cuts across Banking & Finance, Corporate and Commercial transaction, Tax and Transfer pricing Practice, Dispute Resolution and Arbitration, Energy and natural resources, Intellectual property and Real Estate practice.

### EDUCATION

- Nigeria Law school (BL)
- Abia State University (LL. B)
- Abia State University (B.A English & Literature)

### PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIP

- Nigerian Bar Association

### PRACTICE AREA

- Corporate Commercial
- Dispute Resolution and Arbitration
- Banking and Finance
- Real Estate practice
- Intellectual Property
- Energy and Natural Resources
- Tax and Transfer Pricing Practice

# PROFILE

## Kikelomo Adeoye

### Associate

kikelomo.adeoye@alliancelawfirm.ng

Kikelomo Adeoye is an Associate in the Transaction practice unit of Alliance Law Firm. She obtained her Bachelor of Laws (LLB) from Obafemi Awolowo University and has been called to the Nigerian Bar.



She is goal driven and enthusiastic about an impactful legal career. Her practice area cuts across Corporate-Commercial, Real Estate, Finance, Intellectual Property, Company Secretarial and Legal Advisory. She has strong enthusiasm for issues on Financial Technology (Fintech), Data Privacy. She is teachable, has the ability to work with a team and achieve set goals.

### EDUCATION

- Obafemi Awolowo University (LLB)
- Nigerian Law School (BL)

### PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIP

- Nigerian Bar Association

### PRACTICE AREA

- Corporate-Commercial
- Real Estate
- Finance
- Intellectual Property
- Company Secretarial and Legal Advisory

# PROFILE

## Omoerere Erhuen Associate

omoerere.erhuen@alliancelawfirm.ng

Omoerere Erhuen is an Associate in the Corporate/Commercial and Transactions practice unit of Alliance Law Firm. She graduated from the Nigerian Law School with a First Class Honours and obtained the Director General's Prize for First Class students. She is also a graduate of Delta State University where she finished in the top 2% of her class with a Second Class Honours (Upper Division). She possesses an unwavering passion for law practice, embodies excellence and tenacity, and is committed to delivering invaluable solutions to clients' needs.



Outside of work, Omoerere loves to watch football, read African fiction, and volunteer with NGOs. She is also passionate about giving back to the society and about climate change and energy transition issues.

### EDUCATION

- Delta State University (LLB)
- Nigerian Law School (First Class Honours, BL.)

### PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIP

- Nigerian Bar Association
- Institute of Chartered Mediators and Conciliators

### PRACTICE AREA

- Corporate & Commercial Practice
- Company Secretarial and Legal Advisory
- Energy and Infrastructure
- Intellectual Property

# PROFILE

## **Kelechi Njaka**

### **Associate**

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Kelechi Njaka is an Associate with the Firm's Dispute Resolution, Research and Publication Unit as well provides support for the Transactional and Corporate Commercial works of the firm. He graduated from Nigerian Law School with a Second Class (Upper Division) and he is also a graduate of Ebonyi State University where he finished top 3 of his class with a Second Class (Upper Division). He was the recipient of Prof. Chinedu Ekuma Law School scholarship.



He is a performance driven and goal-oriented lawyer with strong passion for corporate and commercial practice, oil and gas, and dispute resolution.

### **EDUCATION**

- Ebonyi State University
- Nigerian Law School

### **PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIP**

- Nigerian Bar Association
- Institute of Chartered Mediators and Conciliators

### **PRACTICE AREA**

- Dispute Resolution Practice
- Energy and Infrastructure
- Corporate & Commercial Practice

# PROFILE

## Faith Boluwatife Omole

### Associate

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Faith Boluwatife Omole is a key member of the Corporate/Commercial and Transactions Practice Unit of Alliance Law Firm. She graduated from the Faculty of Law Kogi State University as the Best Graduating Student of her set and from the Nigerian Law School with a Second-Class Upper Division. She is the Winner of the Maiden Edition of the Age of Legal Scholar Competition organized by The Trusted Advisors for Law Graduates. Faith actively engages in legal research and evaluation of prevalent or emerging legal issues.



Before joining Alliance Law Firm, Faith garnered invaluable exposure and experience while serving as a Corp member at the Court of Appeal, Owerri Judicial Division under His Lordship Justice Rita Pemu Nosakhare. As a law graduate, she interned at Banwo and Ighodalo, Olaniwun Ajayi Legal Practitioners, Omaplex Law Firm, Pensbury Attorneys and Solicitors, etc.

She is passionate about growth, personal development, leadership, and excellence. She has great oral and written, communication skills among other skills she possesses. She considers her ability to relate well with people a strength thus, making her a great team player.

Faith is very diligent and this has driven her to deliberately strive for excellence and mastery in her endeavors. Her core value entails Excellence, Integrity, Diligence, and Honesty

### EDUCATION

- Kogi State University, Anyigba Kogi State (LLB)
- Nigerian Law School (BL)

### PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIP

- Nigerian Bar Association (NBA)
- Institute of Chartered Mediators and Conciliators (ICMC)

### PRACTICE AREA

- Corporate/Commercial
- Transactions
- Data Protection
- Dispute resolution
- Company secretarial and legal advisory

# PROFILE

## Victoria Asiegbu

### Associate

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Victoria Asiegbu is a hardworking lawyer with a distinguished academic background, having graduated with a Second-Class Upper Division (2:1) from both Babcock University and the Nigerian Law School. Her strong foundation in law, combined with practical experience in litigation and corporate law, has shaped her into a versatile and skilled legal professional.



Victoria is actively engaged in legal research, writing, and client relationship management. She has gained invaluable experience through key roles and internships at renowned institutions, including Alliance Law Firm, Babatunde Ogala & Co., and the High Court of Lagos State. Her work at Alliance Law Firm, in particular, provided her with insight into complex litigation and corporate transactions, equipping her with the skills needed to excel in high-stakes environments.

Victoria is passionate about personal development, leadership, and delivering excellence. Known for her integrity, diligence, and strong communication skills, she is a collaborative team player dedicated to achieving organisational goals and fostering productive relationships. Her commitment to upholding core values and pursuing continuous growth underscores her professional journey. Victoria's commitment to excellence and integrity, along with her goal-oriented approach, positions her as an asset to any legal team. Her core values include diligence, honesty, and a dedication to continuous improvement in her legal career.

### EDUCATION

- Babcock University (LLB, Second-Class Upper Division)
- Nigerian Law School (BL, Second-Class Upper Division)

### PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIP

- Nigerian Bar Association (NBA)

### PRACTICE AREA

- Litigation
- Corporate/Commercial Law
- Contract Drafting and Review
- Client Relationship Management



# PROFILE

## **Atake Anthonia** **Associate**

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Atake Anthonia is a Trainee Associate in the Dispute Resolution, Corporate/Commercial and Transactions practice unit at Alliance Law Firm. She graduated from Benson Idahosa University with a First Class Honours and also excelled at the Nigerian Law School, finishing in the Top 19% of her set. Anthonia has a passion for research and is dedicated to her work. She is known for her commitment, teamwork skills and is self-motivated, making her a valuable asset as a young and resourceful lawyer.



Anthonia's practice areas spans Corporate/Commercial, Intellectual Property, FinTech, Real Estate, Energy and Dispute Resolution. She harbors a strong enthusiasm for Legal Technology and Data Protection Law. In addition to her legal prowess, she holds several certificates in Project Management. Anthonia conducts legal research on cases and writes articles which are reviewed for publishing by the firm. She is devoted to achieving remarkable outcomes and fostering professional development through dedication, diligence, and a fervor for the legal and technological field.

### **EDUCATION**

- Benson Idahosa University (First Class Honours, LL.B)
- Nigerian Law school (BL)

### **PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIP**

- Nigerian Bar Association

### **PRACTICE AREA**

- Corporate/Commercial Practice
- Intellectual Property
- Real Estate
- Energy and Infrastructure
- Dispute Resolution
- Legal Advisory

# PROFILE

## Adizua Vianney

### Associate

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Adizua Vianney is a Trainee Associate at Alliance Law Firm. She obtained her LL.B (Hons) with a second class (Upper Division) from Edo State University and B.L from the Nigerian Law School. With focus on professional growth, Vianney actively engages in legal research enabling her to navigate complex legal matters with precision. Her adaptability and adept communication skills facilitates seamless collaboration within teams reflecting her commitment to delivering exceptional outcomes.



Vianney's practice areas cuts across Intellectual Property, Entertainment, Real Estate, Energy, corporate and commercial practice. She is driven by a passion for innovation and stays abreast of advancements in legal technology and data protection. Her commitment to excellence is reflected in her academic achievements and professional demeanor.

### EDUCATION

- Edo State University (Second Class 'Upper' Division, LL.B)
- Nigerian Law school (BL)

### PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIP

- Nigerian Bar Association
- Institute of Chartered Mediators and Conciliators

### PRACTICE AREA

- Intellectual property
- Corporate and Commercial
- Real Estate
- Data protection
- Entertainment
- Legal Advisory

# PROFILE

## Oji Obah Associate

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Oji Chijioke Obah is an Associate in the Firm's Dispute Resolution Practice unit. He possesses a growing yet solid foundation in Litigation and Dispute Resolution and is deeply passionate about continuous professional growth and development. He is a collaborative team player, committed to achieving clients' objectives and contributing meaningfully to the firm's success.



### EDUCATION

- Nigerian Law School, Lagos (B.L.)
- Abia State University, Uturu (LL.B.)

### PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIP

- Nigerian Bar Association

### PRACTICE AREA

- Litigation & Dispute Resolution
- Sports Law
- Insolvency

# PROFILE

## **Chinazom Ndefo** **Trainee Associate**

chinazom.ndefo@alliancelawfirm.ng

Chinazom Chikwado Ndefo is a Trainee Associate in the Firm's Corporate/Commercial and Transactions Practice unit. She is a top-performing lawyer with a growing interest in Corporate and Commercial Law, Mergers and Acquisitions, Litigation, and Alternative Dispute Resolution. Chinazom actively engages in legal research and writing.



Chinazom is dedicated, passionate, and possesses a strong commitment to delivering exceptional legal services. She has developed a keen understanding of the legal landscape and is well-equipped to navigate complex legal issues.

As a lawyer, Chinazom is driven by a desire to provide top-notch representation to clients. She is known for her meticulous attention to detail, her ability to analyze complex legal problems, and her effective communication skills.

### **EDUCATION**

- Nnamdi Azikiwe University, Awka, Anambra State (LLB)
- Nigerian Law School (BL)

### **PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIP**

- Nigerian Bar Association

### **PRACTICE AREA**

- Corporate/Commercial
- Transactions
- Dispute Resolution
- Company Secretarial and Legal Advisory

# PROFILE

## Joshua Uchechukwu Olewu Trainee Associate

joshua.olewu@alliancelawfirm.ng

Joshua is a Trainee Associate in the Firm's Dispute Resolution, Company Secretarial and Capital Market Practice Units. He is a serial leader and commands a professional personality of curiosity, progressiveness, and is value-driven. As a Trainee Associate, Joshua actively supports the firm's legal team in executing innovative legal strategies for domestic and international clients. He has shown a strong academic and professional foundation through continued professional education, earning him certifications with the Institute of Chartered Secretaries and Administrators of Nigeria (ICSAN) and the Nigerian Institute of Chartered Arbitrators (NICArb).



Joshua is an active contributor in thought leadership on various burning legal issues in his areas of interest (including Arbitration, Consumer Protection, and Intellectual Property) and has been published in reputable international and domestic peer-reviewed journals and other legal depositories.

Being impact-driven, Joshua consistently commits to not-for-profit groups and engagements geared towards the scaling of both personal and professional development of aspiring lawyers in Nigeria. Prior to joining Alliance Law firm, Joshua had interned with reputable law firms in Lagos, Abuja, and Enugu, Nigeria.

### EDUCATION

- University of Nigeria (LL.B)
- Nigerian Law School (BL)

### PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIP

- Nigerian Bar Association (NBA)
- Institute of Chartered Secretaries and Administrators of Nigeria (ICSAN)
- Nigerian Institute of Chartered Arbitrators (NICArb)

### PRACTICE AREA

- Corporate/Commercial Dispute Resolution (Litigation & Alternative Methods)
- Corporate Governance & Company Secretarial Services
- Business Advisory
- Consumer Protection
- Intellectual Property
- Taxation
- Employment Law



## **PUBLICATION**

- Co-Author: **Arbitral Proceedings and Award Enforcement in Zhongshan Fucheng Industrial Investment Co Ltd v Nigeria – Revisited** (The Gravitas Review of Business and Property Law Volume 15, Issue 3 p. 18 . Sept. 2024)
- Co-Author: **Revaluating the Regime of Celebrity Endorsement, Product Liability, and Consumer Protection in Nigeria** (SSRN eJournal Jan. 13, 2024)
- Author: **Generative AI and Consumer Protection: Directives for Regulation in Nigeria** (SSRN eJournal Sept. 18, 2023)
- Author: **The Intersection of Insolvency and International Commercial Arbitration: Nigeria and Selected Jurisdiction** (The Gravitas Review of Business and Property Law Volume 14, Issue 2 p. 25 . June 2023)
- Co-Author: **Consumer Dissatisfaction in E-Commerce Transactions: Protecting the Nigerian Consumers** (Business Law Review Volume 44, Issue 3 p. 117 · May 26, 2023)
- Author: **Originality And Novelty: Generative AI And IP Rights Protection Under Nigerian Laws – Published on May 27, 2023 – TheNigerianLawyer**
- Author: **Examining the Igbo Apprenticeship System and Children’s Right to Work – Published on March 12, 2023 – Lawyard**

# PROFILE

## Daniel Anagu

### Associate

daniel.anagu@alliancelawfirm.ng

Daniel Anagu is a results-oriented Associate with expertise in data protection, regulatory compliance, and strategic advisory services across complex sectors, including energy and technology. He is known for his precision in research, clarity in communication, and ability to turn difficult legal and policy challenges into actionable outcomes. He supports the development of legal opinions, contract structuring, and compliance advisory for leading institutions.



Daniel is a recognized voice on regulatory innovation, with widely read publications on platforms such as Lexology, Mondaq, and Muck Rack. His work covers cutting-edge topics, including artificial intelligence governance, ESG obligations, and reforms in the energy sector.

With a consistent track record of academic excellence and award-winning thought leadership, Daniel brings analytical depth, strategic foresight, and execution capability to every engagement. His work reflects a commitment to balancing innovation, governance, and public interest.

## EDUCATION

- Redeemer's University (First Class Honours, LLB)
- Nigerian Law School (BL)

## PRACTICE AREA

- Technology Law Practice
- Oil and Gas
- Energy Investments
- Dispute Resolution
- Information Security (Data protection and Privacy, Artificial Intelligence, Cybersecurity)

## PUBLICATION

- Co-Author: A Review Of The NERC Order Regarding The Delineation And Operational Requirements For Distribution Companies (DisCos) 2025 (Mondaq · Aug 11, 2025)
- Co-Author: Addressing Energy Security In Nigeria: Whither The Upstream Petroleum Operations Order 2025 (Mondaq · Aug 11, 2025)
- Co-Author: A review of the NERC order regarding the delineation and operational requirements for distribution companies (discos) 2025 (Lexology · Aug 11, 2025)
- Co-Author: A Review Of The Order On The Establishment Of The Independent System Operator For The



**Nigerian Electricity Supply Industry 2024 (Mondaq · Jul 05, 2024)**

- Co-Author: A Review of the Order on the Establishment of the Independent System Operator for the Nigerian Electricity Supply Industry 2024 (Lexology · Jun 27, 2024)
- Co-Author: Artificial intelligence and the energy sector: a legal perspective (Lexology · May 22, 2024)
- Co-Author: Artificial Intelligence And The Energy Sector: A Legal Perspective (Mondaq · May 20, 2024)
- Co-Author: A Review Of The Presidential Directive On Reduction Of Petroleum Sector Contracting Costs And Timelines, 2024 (Mondaq · May 15, 2024)
- Co-Author: A review of the presidential directive on reduction of petroleum sector contracting costs and timelines, 2024 (Lexology · May 09, 2024)
- Co-Author: Key Developments In Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Emission Reduction Cases (Mondaq · Apr 23, 2024)
- Co-Author: Spotlight On The Local Content Compliance Requirements Presidential Directive 2024 – Nigeria (Mondaq · Apr 23, 2024)
- Co-Author: Spotlight on the local content compliance requirements presidential directive 2024 (Lexology · Apr 18, 2024)
- Co-Author: Spotlights Of The Nigerian Midstream And Downstream Petroleum Regulatory Authority's Gas Distribution Systems Regulations – Oil, Gas & Electricity – Nigeria (Mondaq · Mar 06, 2024)
- Co-Author: Environment And Social Governance (ESG): Implication For In-House Counsel – Environmental Law – Nigeria (Mondaq · Mar 06, 2024)
- Co-Author: An evaluation of key cases in esg development (Lexology · Mar 06, 2024)
- Co-Author: COVID-19: Is Nigerian law adequate in facilitating ICT-based tertiary learning? (The Guardian (Nigeria) · May 05, 2020)



# PROFILE

## Oreoluwa Olu-David

### Associate

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Oreoluwa Daniel Olu-David is an Associate in the firm's Corporate, Commercial, and Litigation Practice Groups. Oreoluwa holds a First Class Bachelor of Laws (LL.B.) degree. He is focused, dedicated with a high level of integrity and ethics. Before joining the firm, he worked with Law Links Legal Practitioners, actively involved in Property Law, Debt Recovery, and Legal Drafting. He also served as Executive Assistant (Intern) at Opportunik Global Fund, advising on investment strategies and corporate structuring while providing operational support to the CEO's office.



Oreoluwa's legal training is complemented by his certification as a Financial Analyst from the Edubridge Academy and completion of various professional courses in Mediation, Corporate Secretarial Services, Corporate Governance, Project Management, and Technology Law. He is an Associate member of the Institute of Chartered Mediators and Conciliators (ICMC) and presently awaiting induction into the Institute of Chartered Secretaries and Administrators (ICSAN). He has a strong interest in the Intersection of Law, Technology, and Financial Regulation.

He is also a published author in Environmental Law and a recipient of several academic and leadership awards.

Oreoluwa is committed to delivering innovative, client-focused solutions and contributing to the firm's tradition of excellence in legal service.

### EDUCATION

- Redeemer's University (First Class Honours, LLB)
- Nigerian Law School (BL)

### PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIP

- Institute of Chartered Mediators and Conciliators (ICMC)
- Institute of Chartered Secretaries and Administrators (ICSAN)

### PRACTICE AREA

- Corporate/Commercial
- Transactions
- Dispute resolution
- Company Secretarial and Legal Advisor

**OUR PRACTICE AREAS  
&  
INDICATIVE EXPERIENCES**



**ALLIANCE LAW FIRM**



## ALLIANCE LAW FIRM

We are a full-service law firm with a depth of proven experience and expertise in Corporate Commercial transactions and dispute resolution

### PRIVACY & DATA PROTECTION PRACTICE PROFILE

#### INTRODUCTION

Alliance Law Firm is a commercial law firm with a strong foundation in data protection compliance, advisory and litigation. With the increased global regulation on the processing of personal data by public and private organizations, we understand that successful businesses will seek the assistance of our well-informed data protection and privacy experts who understand their businesses and ready to provide responsive and pragmatic advice that will meet their needs and at the same time comply with data protection and privacy laws. Alliance Law Firm is a Data Protection Compliance Organization (DPCO) duly licensed and certified by the Nigeria Data Protection Bureau. Our Privacy lawyers are highly sought after by both local and international corporations due to their informed knowledge and understanding of the ecosystem which is brought to use in assisting organizations to navigate the complex data protection and privacy compliance requirements. Our clients benefit from a comprehensive suite of data protection services involving data protection audit, cross-border transfer of personal data, data protection impact assessment, vendor assessment, data protection due diligence in mergers and acquisition, risk assessment, data subject access request (DSAR), data protection dispute resolution etc. Also, we are frequently engaged to represent our clients in discussions and negotiations with data protection authorities with whom we maintain and sustain a cordial and friendly relationship. We have been invited to lead discussions on data protection-related topics by organisations such as Digital Right Lawyers Initiative, Nigeria Internet Governance Forum, Privacy Hub Africa, Privacy Conference Nigeria, ESQ Training Limited, the Moot Academy, etc. We are also professional members of International Network of Privacy Law Professionals, the Association of Privacy Lawyers in Africa, Privacy Hub Africa. As thought leaders in privacy and data protection practice, we have a myriad of publications relating to the subject matter which provides clarity on all aspects of data protection laws and regulations.

#### REPRESENTATIVES MATTERS:

##### A. DATA PROTECTION SERVICE EXPERIENCE

- Advised a multinational data services corporation on its data compliance issues with the sector regulator
- Provided a legal opinion to a leading telecommunication company operating in Nigeria, Africa and globally with respect to an alleged data breach that was being investigated by the NDPB and other law enforcement agencies.
- Provided data protection audit and remediation services for an indigenous E & P Company
- Advised Immigration and Refugee Board of a Country on the international transfer of data and processing of BVN of immigrants for tracking purposes.
- We have reviewed the Data Protection Bill, 2020
- Provided legal opinion to a Fintech company on data protection compliance requirements and legal implications for the international transfer of personal data under the Nigeria Data Protection law.
- Provided data protection audit and remediation services for medical start-up firms.
- Provided risk assessment and data protection audit for an international exploration and production company.

\* Please note that this profile also captures the experience of key members of the Privacy and Data Protection Team.



## ALLIANCE LAW FIRM

We are a full-service law firm with a depth of proven experience and expertise in Corporate Commercial transactions and dispute resolution

### **CORPORATE AND COMMERCIAL PRACTICE GROUP (CAPITAL MARKET)**

#### **INTRODUCTION**

Alliance Law Firm ("ALF") is a leading commercial law firm with offices located in Lagos, Abuja and Port-Harcourt, with nine partners, over 40 lawyers and a host of support professionals including certified law professionals, managers and accountants, working cohesively to serve ALF's select clientele which of course over a 20-year practice period has grown to include sector leading corporations, multinationals, governmental agencies, and international organisations. ALF is a registered capital market law firm with the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) with five members of its team also registered with SEC as Sponsored Individuals and compliance officers. The ALF Capital Market Team is made up of 8 lawyers led by the Managing Partner Uche Val Obi, SAN, FCIArb who has been described as a top Lawyer by Chambers and Partners. Similarly IFLR described Uche as a Leading Lawyer in High Demand. Following the ALF Capital Markets teams contribution to the development of Capital Markets law in Nigeria, Uche in 2014, for a term of 2 years was elected as the Chairman of the Capital Market Solicitors Association (CMSA) an umbrella body of over 100 law firms in Nigeria advising on Capital Markets transactions

In addition, Uche together with Albert .A. Adu, a partner in the ALF Capital Markets Team participated in the production of the Nigerian Capital Market Master Plan, 10 year Plan 2015 - 2025 as committee member and researcher respectively. As a result Uche in 2019 was formally recognised by SEC for his contributions to the development of the Nigerian Capital Market.

#### **SELECTED INDICATIVE EXPERIENCE**

- Advised a private telecommunications company, on the proposed US\$55 Million equity investment geared at infrastructure rollout and enhancements of its telecommunication infrastructure portfolio in Nigeria.
- Advised the Federal Government (Debt Management Office) of Nigeria as Solicitor to the Issuer in respect of its Series 3, N150 Billion issuances of a non-interest financing instrument (Sukuk) in the domestic debt market.
- Advised the Federal Government (Debt Management Office) of Nigeria as Solicitor to the Issuer in respect of its Series 2, N100 Billion issuances of a non-interest financing instrument (Sukuk) in the domestic debt market.
- Advised the Federal Government (Debt Management Office) of Nigeria as Solicitor to the Issuer in respect of its Series 1, N100 Billion issuances of a non-interest financing instrument (Sukuk) in the domestic debt market.



- Advised a Nigerian fund capitalized at N100 Billion Naira in the raising of an additional US\$500 Million from international investor.
- Advised Stanbic IBTC Trustees Limited and Leadway Capital and Trust Limited on the establishment of the N50 Billion Bond Issuance and N10 Billion Series 1 12% Fixed Rate Subordinated Unsecured Bonds due 2027 Programme by Nova Merchant Bank Limited.
- Advised as Transaction Counsel in connection with the establishment of the N50 Billion Commercial Paper Issuance Programme by Nova Merchant Bank Limited.
- Advised PAC Trustees Limited and Vetiva Trustees Limited in respect of the secured N50 Billion Bond Issuance Programme by TAK Agro PLC an agricultural infrastructure company and the N15 Billion Series 1 Bond Issuance .
- Advised ARM Trustees, FBN Quest Trustees, Stanbic IBTC Trustees and United Capital Trustees on the N41,213,000,000 Series 1 Bond Issuance Programme by Fidelity Bank PLC.
- Advised as Solicitor to the Issuer on the N30 Billion Bond Issuance Programme and Issuance of N20 Billion Series 1 Bonds by Depthwise Energy Services Limited.
- Advised Osun State Government as Solicitors to the Issuer in the restructuring of a N30 Billion Vanilla Bond and a N11 Billion Sukuk Al-Ijarah.
- Acted as legal advisers to the Ekiti State Government on its N15 Billion Bond Issuance for Ekiti State Infrastructure Finance.
- Advised Stanbic IBTC Trustees Limited in the establishment of the N15 Billion Bond Issuance Programme by Eat and Go Limited and its N11 Million Series 1 Bond Issuance.
- Advised the Security Trustee on the N13 Billion refinancing of the Series 2 residential mortgage-backed securities by the Federal Mortgage Bank of Nigeria.
- Advised as Transaction Counsel in connection with the establishment of the N10 Billion Commercial Paper Issuance Programme by Guinness Nigeria PLC.
- Advised Leadway Assurance Company Limited on the US\$500,000 Loan Notes issued by Green Africa Airways, a subsidiary of Green White Group Limited.
- Advised a Microfinance Bank on the N200 Million unsecured loan notes issuance to investors to shore up its Tier 2 Capital.
- Advised several international investment banks and financing corporations on the legal treatment of derivatives in Nigeria (including Credit Suisse, HSBC PLC, Morgan Stanley, ING, Societe Generale; and Mitsubishi Securities).



- Advised SEPLAT petroleum development company Plc in relation to its \$500 Million USD dual listing on the London and Nigerian stock exchange
- Acted for Nestoil Plc, on its N45 Billion private placement.
- Advised Abia State, on the issuance of N30 Billion fixed rate infrastructure bond.
- Advised the Trustee of the Transcorp Hotels Plc N30 Billion medium term fixed rate bond programme together with its N10 Billion series 1 bond issuance under the said bond programme.
- Advised on the N28 Billion Nigerian Mortgage Refinance Company.
- Advised on the N25 Billion Niger state approved private bond Tranche 1 & 2 programme.
- Advised Infracredit , a 'AAA' rated specialized infrastructure credit guarantee institution, in its guarantee of GPC SPV Company Plc's ("GPC-SPV") N20.0 billion 10-years Series 1 Senior Guaranteed Fixed Rate Infrastructure Bond due 2031 (the "GPC series 1 Bond") under the N50 billion Debt Issuance Programme.
- Advised capital oil, on its N6 Billion Private Placement transaction.
- Advised Globe Reinsurance Plc, on its N5.1 Billion private placement.
- Advised Naturelle Extracts Plc, on its bond flotation of N5 billion.
- Advised Crusader Insurance Nigeria Plc, on its hybrid public offer targeted at raising about N3.5 Billion Naira.
- Advised Pan Africa Capital Asset Management limited on the issuance of a number of collective investment schemes such as but not limited to the N 500 Million PACAM fixed income fund, \$1 Million
- PACAM Eurobond fund, and the N500Million PACAM Money Market Fund.
- Advised ACB International Bank Plc on its N20 Billion equity raising.
- Advised 11 PLC (formerly Mobil Oil Nigeria Plc) on its voluntary delisting of 360,595,261 ordinary shares from the main board of the Nigerian Stock Exchange.
- Advised NOLCHEM on its public offer for sale of 20% , and sale to core investors of 51%, of the shares of the company under the first phase of privatization in 2000.



## ALLIANCE LAW FIRM

We are a full-service law firm with a depth of proven experience and expertise in Corporate Commercial transactions and dispute resolution

### BANKING AND FINANCE PROFILE

#### INTRODUCTION

Alliance Law Firm is a commercial law firm renowned for its ability to provide precise and commercially informed solutions in resolving legal or regulatory issues. Our team emerged Banking and Finance Team of the years 2019 and 2021 at the ESQ Nigerian Legal Awards. This practice area focuses on providing dispute resolution services as well as legal advisory services on issues pertaining to banking, financing/ refinancing transactions, infrastructure finance, project finance, asset finance, regulatory and compliance.

#### SELECTED INDICATIVE EXPERIENCE:

- Advised an asset manager based in the United States with launching an investment fund of circa USD150 Million for financial institutions, enterprises and emerging markets in Nigeria with an exclusive focus on solving the global water and sanitation crisis.
- Acted as Transaction Solicitors to a Technical and Funding Partner in a Financing and Technical Service Arrangement for an OML to take over certain roles and responsibilities under a Joint Operating Agreement and to provide the required funding for the project in a USD 1.9 Billion deal
- Acted as transaction solicitors to AMCON in the acquisition of Eligible Bank Assets of three major banks operating in Nigeria valued at USD160 Million
- Provided legal and advisory services to AMCON in the restructuring of a USD160 Million facility owed by a major telecommunication company in Nigeria to commercial banks.
- Advised the funding entity on a USD 1.95 Billion secured financing in connection with the development and production of an oil mining lease under a Financing and Technical Services Agreement.
- Advised a Client on its USD 640 Million Senior Secured Medium-Term Facility restructuring.
- Advised Seplat Petroleum Development Company Plc ("Seplat") on its over USD500 Million global IPO and dual listing of its shares on the Lagos and London Stock Exchanges.
- Advised Neconde Energy Limited ("Neconde") in connection with a USD720 Million secured reserve-based lending from a syndicate of foreign and local banks.
- Advised Nestoil Limited on its USD 1.2 Billion Global Facilities Refinancing.
- Advised Emerging Markets Telecommunication Services ("9Mobile") on its circa USD 400 Million senior secured facility from the Africa Finance Corporation.
- Advised a Client on its USD 400 Million Syndicated Facilities Refinancing.
- Advised a conglomerate on its USD400 Million real estate tower project in Victoria Island, Lagos.
- Acted as Transaction Solicitors to a Lender to provide bridge finance in the sum of USD 8.6 Million to a Borrower and its Gabon and Nigerian subsidiaries.
- Advised a Client on its USD 250 Million Syndicated Facilities Refinancing.
- Advised an indigenous conglomerate in connection with the negotiation of a USD242 Million facility from a Nigerian bank.
- Advised a London-based Bank on a USD225 Million facility to a Nigerian borrower for the acquisition of a jack-up rig from Asia.
- Advised a London-based Bank on the lending of the sum of USD80 Million to an EPC contractor in Nigeria for a pipeline project.
- Acted as legal advisers to a London-based bank in connection with USD40 Million finance to Fidelity Bank Plc.



- Acted as legal advisers to Dansa Foods Limited, a subsidiary company of the Dangote Group, in connection with a USD40 Million finance facility from the African Export-Import Bank.
- Advised the UAE subsidiary of a London-based international Bank in connection with the legal and regulatory framework governing the issuance of credit derivative products in Nigeria.
- Advised a London-based Bank on a USD225 Million facility to a Nigerian borrower for the acquisition of a jack-up rig from Asia.
- Advised Heritage Bank Company Limited in connection with its USD9.5 Million project finance facility for the building of an Independent Power Plant in Nigeria.
- Advised a Delaware-based green energy fund on its USD8.5 Million bridge facility to a renewable & hybrid energy service provider company in Nigeria.
- Advised a fund established in the Cayman Islands on its proposed investment of up to USD 1 Million in a company incorporated in Mauritius, which loan is to be utilised by the company's Nigerian subsidiary
- Successfully defended a major Nigerian bank in a USD76.5 Million suit arising from the private placement of shares in a Financial Institution in Nigeria, and handling the appeals arising out of it. Representing a Nigerian bank in a suit filed by a telecommunication company claiming the sum of over USD11.8 Million in addition to declaratory and injunctive reliefs.
- Represented one of the largest indigenous energy groups and one of its major directors in an action challenging the directives of the CBN Bankers Committee compelling a Nigerian bank to transfer 911,000 Zain shares to its debtor-customer even though the current holders had prior to the directive purchased the shares for valuable consideration since 2004.
- Successfully defended a Nigerian bank in a USD131.6 Million class action filed by customers of the bank in connection with unauthorized ATM withdrawals.
- Represented a Nigerian Bank successfully at the High Court in an enforcement action filed by a civil construction company in connection with an order to transfer deposits in the sum of USD23.7 Million held by it to the Court's Chief Registrar's account pending the determination of the substantive suit.
- Advised a consortium of Nigerian lenders on a USD285 Million facility to a fabrication, galvanisation and steel rolling company.
- Advised an indigenous oil and gas operator on a NGN 4 Billion term loan facility from Zenith Bank Plc.
- Advised an indigenous oil and gas operator in connection with the negotiation of a USD242 Million term loan facility from a Nigerian bank.
- Acted as legal adviser to an indigenous E&P company in relation to a USD96 Million refinancing from a





local and an international Bank with its principal office in Egypt.

- Acted as Counsel for the Securities & Exchange Commission (SEC) against two Nigerian banks participating in the merger of six banks that constitute the present-day Enterprise Bank Limited challenging the sale/transfer of 984,714,071 units of shares of Spring Bank Plc valued at about USD20.5 Million to entities connected to a named Bank in a controversial hostile take-over bid.
- Represented one of the major Nigerian banks and its subsidiary in a suit whereby a party sought a declaration that they are entitled to full allotment of 13 million units of Zenith Bank shares which they applied for at the Bank's last public offering of shares in addition to monetary damages .
- Represented a group of shareholders of two Banks in two representative actions against the CBN action in removing the executive management of the affected Banks without recourse to the Shareholders of the Banks.
- Advised a London-based Bank on the lending of the sum of USD80 Million to an EPC contractor in Nigeria for a pipeline project.
- Advised an indigenous conglomerate in connection with the negotiation of a USD242 Million facility from a Nigerian bank.
- Representing a commercial Bank in various cases involving a loan dispute with some of its customers which have a combined claim of about USD6.6 Million against it.
- Advised Neconde on a USD150 Million finance facility from a syndicate of African Finance Corporation, Access Bank Plc and United Bank of Africa Plc.
- Representing a commercial Bank against some litigants who sought the discharge of an Order of the lower Court ordering the Bank to transfer deposits in the sum of USD23.7 Million held by it to the Court's Chief Registrar's account pending the determination of the substantive suit.
- Acted as Solicitor to a major player in the downstream Liberian Oil sector in the USD60 Million financing advanced by Africa Finance Corporation (AFC) to enable the purchase by the Borrower of 100% shares in the Liberian and Sierra Leone subsidiaries of French oil giant, Total Energies.
- Acted as solicitor to a Noteholder in USD50 Million loan notes issuance issued by an issuer who operates in the energy sector to advance its market share and grow its operation in the energy sector.



## ALLIANCE LAW FIRM

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### **INSOLVENCY, DEBT RECOVERY, BUSINESS RESCUE AND CORPORATE RESTRUCTURING PRACTICE.**

Alliance Law Firm is a commercial law firm that offers pragmatic solutions for insolvency, debt recovery, Business Rescue, and corporate restructuring. We are a strong advocate for improving existing statutory frameworks to facilitate a more modern approach to corporate reorganization, Business Rescue, Turnaround, and insolvency arrangements, including Receivership / Management and Administration in Nigeria.

Our Insolvency, debt recovery, business rescue and corporate restructuring team is made up of seasoned professionals with a deep understanding of secured credit, corporate insolvency laws and practical application of the laws to assist clients. We anticipate challenges and proactively formulate solutions, ensuring swift and decisive action. We are trusted by a wide range of clients operating in different sectors of the economy including government institutions. Our services are tailored to suit the commercial objectives of our clients irrespective of their status as creditors, borrowers, mortgagors, mortgagees etc. This deep understanding of our clients' businesses sets us apart from other service providers. We understand the business, economic, socio-cultural and emotional implications of the various procedures of the insolvency process, and we will work closely with you to ensure that the right approach is adopted and your interests are well safeguarded. We stay updated with the latest changes in insolvency laws to ensure that our clients receive the best legal advice.

ALF understand that every insolvency case is unique, and we adopt a solutions-oriented approach to finding the best possible outcome for our clients. Our insolvency lawyers work closely with you to understand your financial situation and develop tailored strategies to achieve your desired objectives, relief and financial rehabilitation.

Using a multi-disciplinary approach, we advise on all aspects of insolvency including restructuring, turnarounds and management of creditors. Our service offerings include but are not limited to: developing workout plans with creditors, loan restructuring, filing bankruptcy applications, receivership, voluntary administration and liquidation; schemes of arrangement; distressed and insolvent trading; security enforcement; mergers, acquisitions and due diligence; recovering debts, conducting sales of non-performing assets, arranging debtor-in-possession financing, negotiating reductions in corporate debt obligations, orchestrating a liquidation process, whole spectrum of corporate distress, from early stages through creditor workouts, debt and equity restructurings, workforce reorganisations, corporate transformation and formal insolvency administration.



We are known for advising on extremely complex distressed situations which may also include litigation. Our world-class litigation team have specialist expertise in defending litigation arising out of insolvency situations. Our insolvency lawyers can represent your interests in court and negotiations with creditors, working tirelessly to protect your rights and achieve the best possible outcome for your case. The ALF insolvency team has been voted as the Insolvency Team of the year in 2019 and is ranked highly. We have leading practices in employment, banking and financial services, commercial disputes and commercial transactions, which enables us to deliver full-service insolvency advice.

#### **SELECTED INDICATIVE EXPERIENCE**

- Successfully acted as Commercial & Legal adviser to AMCON as institutional Receiver / Manager over an energy group with interest in oil blocks, gas plant and a major trunk line in the Niger Delta area for asset recovery of circa N700 Billion.
- Successfully acted as Receivership /Management appointment by a Bank over Optima Group and Bloomberg TV Africa to recover circa USD \$ 3.7 million indebtedness with assets disposal.
- Successfully acted as Receivership/Management appointment by a Bank over a Mall in Abia State to recover circa N4 Billion with assets disposal.
- Successfully acted as Receivership/Management appointment over a Steel company affiliates in the recovery of circa N6 Billion with assets disposal and criminal prosecution for conversion of mortgaged assets.
- Acted as Receiver / Manager of Ecobank for the recovery of circa N5.6 Billion through Receivership /Management over a conglomerate .
- Recovery of circa N9.5 Billion under the CBN Anchor Borrowers' programme from an association. Debt recovery agent for the collection of \$15 Million for an oil servicing group service company over a drilling contract and management services contract.
- Currently acting for a top tier Bank for the recovery of \$53 Million from an international group with presence in Nigeria and four other countries.
- Representing an indigenous oil and gas servicing company in a winding up proceeding against a Nigerian company for the latter's inability to pay its debt totalling the sum of circa USD\$1.8 Million.
- Recovery of circa USD \$3.5 Million through vessel/cargo arrest, litigation and asset disposal on behalf of a bank against 'MT Ellal'.
- Defended a Company in a hostile winding-up petition by one of its creditors and had the petition dismissed;



- Defending a company in an ongoing hostile winding-up Petition by a Creditor;
- Recovery of circa USD\$3.8 Million from Enageed Resourced Limited from an Oil and Gas Exploration Company;
- Recovery of circa USD\$ 4 Million from and E&P operator.
- Recovery of circa USD\$ 8.5 Million for a gas company from a trade partner
- Recovery of circa USD \$3.5 Million for a Swiss Company from a trade partner based in Nigeria
- Recovery of circa USD \$ 8.7 million debt through a combination of litigation, an Administrative Hearing at the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) and negotiated settlements for a stock-broking Firm against a Bank over improper treatment of subscription and allotment of shares.
- Ongoing Winding – Up Proceedings to recover US\$11,782,127.54 (Eleven Million, Seven Hundred and Eighty Two Thousand One Hundred and Twenty Seven Dollars fifty four Cent) NGN 681, 540. 00 (Six Hundred and Eighty One Thousand Five Hundred and Forty Thousand).
- Successfully joined a Creditors Club on behalf of two creditors in the winding up proceedings for Afren with substantial claims at the Federal High Court.
- Successfully joined a Creditor winding up petition in a suit to recover substantial debt owed to our clients by BELBOP Limited
- Transaction solicitors and due diligence advisers to AMCON on the acquisition of circa USD \$200 million worth of eligible bank assets relating to NATCOM Development & Investment Limited and debt / equity swap conversion arising from that.
- Collaborating with some foreign Law Firms to assist with insolvency proceedings in Nigeria against some debtors based in Nigeria.
- Advising a leading telecommunication service provider in connection with the acquisition of an indigenous information technology company.
- Currently advising a major Nigerian oil and gas company on its intra-group corporate restructuring consisting of 15 different corporate entities operational in diverse sectors of the Nigerian economy.



## **ALLIANCE LAW FIRM**

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### **ENERGY, EXTRACTIVE INDUSTRY & POWER PRACTICE GROUP**

#### **INTRODUCTION:**

Our team possesses a thorough understanding of the global energy, extractive industry and power sector, the major players and relevant supporting documentation which positions us to offer a comprehensive suite of service offerings to our clients. Our expertise in this practice area covers legal, regulatory and policy issues as well as commercial and fiscal matters that feature in oil, gas, power, and renewable energy transactions. We provide advice on project and energy financing, securitization, mergers, acquisitions, farm-in arrangements and joint ventures, electricity and gas transmission, distribution and supply, power purchase, crude handling, off-take and tolling arrangements, entry issues, local content compliance; reserve-based lending, project finance including financing for marginal fields and securitisation of receivables, advisory on Oil & Gas contracts and transactions including, Joint Operating Agreements, Production Sharing Contracts and Technical Services Agreements, Liquefied Natural Gas Projects; abandonment, remediation and other environmental matters; pipeline and turnkey projects; infrastructure projects including PPPs; advisory on the Marginal Oil Fields Programme, domestic gas supply and pricing policy and regulations, and negotiating, drafting and structuring petroleum industry contracts and arrangements.

We are able to provide industry expertise, assist with transaction structuring and regulatory compliance; and advise on a broad spectrum of power projects and transactions.

#### **SELECTED INDICATIVE EXPERIENCE**

- Advised Nestoil Pie as the EPCM master contractor on its US\$1.05 billion NCTL pipeline project delivered to SPDC in the Niger Delta.
- Advised a Nigerian oil and gas exploration and production company on its over US\$500 million global IPO and dual listing of its shares on the Nigerian and London Stock Exchanges and private placements in the USA and France.
- Advised on a \$720 Million Reserved Based Lending financing;
- Acted as transaction solicitor and due diligence adviser to Neconde Energy Limited in its acquisition of 45% participating interest in OML 42 from SPDC, TOTAL and NAOC at the price of US\$585 million.
- Advised a consortium of foreign and Nigerian infrastructure companies that bid for Genco and Disco assets under the privatization of power companies in Nigeria.



- Advised an EPC operator on a US\$300 million OB3 pipeline project awarded by the NNPC.
- Advised a host of indigenous exploration and production companies on the legal validity of farm out agreements, joint operation agreements, technical services agreements, extension of the farm out agreement, as well as compliance with the petroleum laws of Nigeria and other related laws.
- Advised Neconde Energy Limited in connection with a US\$720 million secured reserve-based lending from a syndicate of foreign and local banks.
- Legal advisers to NestHak HDD Services Limited, an incorporated joint venture between Nestoil Pie and Hak Drillcon BV (a multinational mid-stream company established in The Netherlands), in connection with its business activities in Nigeria. The joint venture company is involved in Horizontal Directional Drilling (HDD).
- Advised prospective foreign investors directly and in some cases through their International Counsel and other foreign investment partners on the acquisition and financing of marginal oil and gas fields in Nigeria.
- Advised Nestoil Pie on several EPC projects including a 260-Meter Gap in the Gas Tie-in- Pipeline-project to Alaoji Power Station.
- Advised a foreign lender on a US\$250 million credit facility to a Nigerian downstream operator for the importation of refined petroleum products.
- Advised a Nigerian oil and gas company on its leveraged buy-out of a private equity investor via financing arranged by a South African-owned commercial Bank.
- Advised a subsidiary of one of the largest conglomerates in Africa on its cross - border investment in an acreage partnering with the host central government and its national oil corporation.
- Advising clients on various provisions of the local content legislation for the Nigerian oil and gas industry; the Nigerian Oil and Gas Industry Content Development Act, 2010, and socio-economic implications.
- Advising potential investors and companies operating within the Nigerian oil and gas industry on the implications and potential consequences of the Petroleum Industry Bills before Nigeria's National Assembly, and which when passed into law will replace existing oil and gas legislation for the Nigerian oil and gas industry.



## **ALLIANCE LAW FIRM**

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### **SHIPPING, MARITIME AND DREDGING LEGAL ADVISORY PRACTICE**

#### **INTRODUCTION**

This practice area focuses on providing legal advisory services relating to and concerning shipping and clearing, and forwarding agents, charterers, cargo interests including commodity traders and cargo insurers, hull and liability insurers, shipyards, necessities men and port operators.

We advise and assist our clients on all aspects of Shipping and Maritime law, including but not limited to Maritime litigation, Maritime Financing enforcement of judgments and awards; enforcement of mortgages and other securities, BIMCO, registering ships; vessel chartering, the eligibility of Nigerian-owned ships and the licensing and temporary registration of foreignowned ships in the special register for vessels and ship owning companies engaged in Cabotage trade; procuring and renewing ministerial waivers and licences for foreign-owned ships for cabotage trade in Nigeria and advising on compliance with the Cabotage Act, 2003, NIMASA Act, 2007 and other laws dealing with coastal and inland shipping in Nigeria, covering all areas of admiralty jurisdiction and practice. We also interface with regulators on compliance matters for our clients.

#### **SELECTED INDICATIVE EXPERIENCE**

- Advising Navvstarr Limited in respect of its facility from a Trading Company for the acquisition of a Vessel.
- Advised Scorpio Ernesto Drilling Company Limited on its Asset leasing transaction;
- Advised Scorpio Ernesto Drilling Company Limited on its Standard Heavylift 2007 (BIMCO)
- Charter party with OHT Falcons.
- Representing Nestoil Limited in a maritime litigation claim against Nigerian Ports Authority;
- Representing Nestoil Limited in a maritime litigation against NIWA in respect of some unauthorized charges;
- Representing Keystone Bank Limited in an admiralty matter against DBM Limited.
- Advised B&Q Dredging and Nigerian Agip Oil Company Limited for Dredging Works in the Niger Delta (Capital and Maintenance Dredging);
- Advised B&Q Dredging Ltd and Setraco Nigeria Limited for sand Dredging aspect of the
- Dualization of the East west Road section II (Kia ma - Port-Harcourt) project for the Ministry of Niger Delta Affairs;
- Legal advisory services and drafting of the Land Lease Agreement between Geo Synergy Group West Africa Limited and B&Q Dredging Limited;
- Advised BlueBay Capital Limited and B&Q Dredging Limited for Dredging Works for the Capital Development of Ikate Elegushi Ancient City, Eti-Osa Local Government Area of Lagos State;



- Advised Julius Berger Nigeria Limited and B&Q Dredging and Marine Services Limited for dredging works for Second River Niger Bridge Construction;
- Drafting of a Non-circumvention, Non-disclosure working Agreement between Petrolex Oil and Gas Limited and B&Q Dredging Limited;
- Advised White Dove Shipping Company Limited and Maritime Security and Logistics Solutions Limited for Patrol Boat Hire for OML 42 Operations on the ST S/Export Operations in Escravos Offshore Area;
- Advised and prepared Memorandum of Agreement between B&Q Dredging and Marine Services Limited and Ship Side DryDock Limited;
- Advising L&EE Construction Limited and B&Q Dredging limited Partnership Agreement for Dredge and Sand Filling Project;
- Advised and assisted in negotiation and preparing the contract between Oro-Ogbuji Family Nkpolu-Oroworukwo Rebisi (AKA Eagle Island) Port-Harcourt, Rivers State and B&Q Dredging Limited for sand dredging;
- Advised, negotiated and prepared Sand Dredging agreement between HMG Nigeria Limited and a dredging company for the Bayelsa State Government;
- Advised on the Sales and Purchase Agreement for the sale and supply of dredged sand between a dredging entity and C.C. Ossy Industry Nigeria Limited;
- Advised on the Sales and Purchase agreement for the sale and supply of dredged sand between B&Q Dredging Limited and WOW Project Services Limited;
- Prepared Subcontract between Energy Works Technology Limited and a dredging operator for dredging of Aboturu Creek for load out operations of OLT Piles by ocean-going barge/vessel;
- Advised on the Subcontract between Nestoil Limited and B&Q Dredging Limited for provision of dredging services (Swamp Spread Creek/River Crossing) for K2S Pipeline Construction project. Representing an indigenous maritime and dredging company on its compliance issues with National Inland Water Authority and Ministry of Mines; Procurement of permits and licenses for maritime and dredging services companies.
- Advised equipment and support personnel a Dredging of dredging Company operations involved in the 2nd Niger project in residing issues and demands of host communities.





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### **INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY, MEDIA, ENTERTAINMENT AND TECHNOLOGY LAW PRACTICE GROUP**

#### **INTRODUCTION**

This practice area focuses on providing legal advisory services to clients in the development processing, protection and enforcing of their intellectual property rights. It also handles matters that are common in the entertainment media and sport sectors ranging from protecting creative rights of artistes at an infantile stage, advising on brand protection and licensing, validity and infringement matters in the intellectual property rights space, filing trademark applications including renewals and cancellations, review and negotiation of contracts for managers, publicists, record labels, and film studios, artistes, sports men and women, domain registration with the National Information Technology Development Agency; registering, licensing, franchising and technology transfer agreements, registering products with the National Agency for Food and Drug Administration and the Standards Organisation of Nigeria, Our deep professional experience and expertise in dispute resolution and commercial law combined with our understanding of the workings of the Nigerian entertainment and media industry enhances our capacity to provide timely legal solutions to clients issues in the Industry.

#### **SELECTED INDICATIVE EXPERIENCE**

- Representing a Client at the Trademark Registry in respect of trademark infringements;
- Advising on the launch of a comedy TV Series on a Cable Channel;
- Defending a N1.2 Trillion Intellectual Property claim against a major downstream energy group;
- Successfully represented a client on appeal at the Federal High Court whose registration of a Mark at the Trademark Registry was refused by the Registrar of the Trademark Registry;
- Representing a Collection Society (COSON) on behalf of various artistes in Nigeria at the Federal High Court and Court of Appeal over the granting of licence to a parallel collecting society for musical and sound recording works;
- Representing a client at the High Court Court of Appeal and presently at the Supreme Court on a matter involving passing off of an industrial design;
- Defended a claim against infringement of copyright of a commercial manual used to promote an electronic paying system;
- Defended a N50 Billion certified class action commenced by users of a bank Automated Teller Machine card services.
- Handled a case involving the enforcement of intellectual property rights through anton pillar orders and claims for accounts of profit injunction and damages by a multinational building material manufacturer.



- Advised on an international transaction involving exclusive franchise agency and distribution of protected goods in US, China and Europe.
- Routinely advised on registration, licensing, set up, tax and regulatory compliance services in IT, telecommunication, entertainment concerns.
- Advised on a wide range of sporting and performance contracts between clubs and organization performances, talent development project sponsorship and management.
- Routinely advised on transactions involving collaboration of artists and entertainers in different continents.
- Advised on agency management and promotional arrangements involving artists, sports persons, entertainers and their partners.



## ALLIANCE LAW FIRM

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### ALLIANCE LAW FIRM TAX PRACTICE PROFILE

#### INTRODUCTION

Alliance Law Firm is a commercial law firm with a strong foundation in tax advisory, litigation, transfer pricing, and audit/dispute resolution services that are insightful, creative and designed to protect each client's business interests. We understand that the current trend of global transparency and exchange of information amongst tax authorities in the world requires that successful businesses do seek out the assistance of well informed tax advisers who understand their businesses and ready to provide responsive and pragmatic advice that will meet their needs and at the same time comply with tax laws. Our tax lawyers are renowned for precise, commercially informed advice on all applicable tax laws in Nigeria, international tax treaties, double taxation agreements, multi-lateral instruments, OECD guidelines, etc. Our team ensures that the needs of our clients are met; and the provisions of relevant tax laws complied with. Our clients benefit from a comprehensive suite of services involving domestic and international/crossborder tax advisory, tax planning, transfer pricing, structured finance, corporate restructuring and reorganization, investment funds, real estate, power, oil and gas, mining, insurance, aviation and other commercial transactions. Also, we are frequently engaged to represent our clients in discussions and negotiations with both Federal and State tax authorities with whom we maintain and sustain a cordial and friendly relationship. We work with our clients to provide efficient, commercial and solution-based advice. Our expertise and relationship with government enable us to work seamlessly with Federal Inland Revenue Service and different States' Internal Revenue Service. When settlement of a tax dispute fails at the level of the relevant tax authority, our dedicated tax litigators take up the matter to protect the interests of our clients. Our team has successfully assisted clients doing business in Nigeria and globally with resolving issues arising from turnover assessment, excess dividend tax assessment, group business restructuring, tax planning, transfer pricing documentation, tax due diligence, obtaining administrative tax amnesty/ruling, operational model optimization, Mergers, Acquisitions, Divestitures, etc.

#### REPRESENTATIVES MATTERS:

##### A. TAX SERVICE EXPERIENCE

- Represented a Client at the Tax Appeal Tribunal Enugu in respect of a N400M Tax liability claim by the FIRS;
- Represented an indigenous E & P Company in respect of its tax liabilities claim on Petroleum Profit Tax Assessment issued by the FIRS;
- Provided tax advisory guidance in respect of a Directional Drilling/ Measurement While Drilling/ Logging while Drilling SERVICES Contract;
- Provided Legal/Tax opinion in a \$640M financing transaction to an E & P Company;
- Provided tax advisory services in respect of engineering, procurement and construction contract for the construction of export pipeline from kolo creek gas to soku gas plant project;



- Advised Neconde Energy Limited on tax-saving options available to it in the US\$470 million upsized to US\$720 million secured reserve-based lending from a syndicate of foreign and local Banks.
- Advised Neconde in a US\$640 Million corporate loan transaction on diverse strategies and impacts of corporate tax avoidance on the price and non-price terms of its loans.
- Reviewed existing business structures of a leading manufacturing company to improve operational efficiencies and optimize tax planning. The company was provided with options on offshore re-organization, the tax and regulatory considerations in other relevant jurisdictions and legally available tax planning tools.
- Provided legal and tax due diligence services on the acquisition of power-generating companies in Nigeria.
- Provided a financial technology firm located in Delaware, United States of America, with operational model optimization services and advisory services on several tax and legal issues.
- Assisted holding companies in Nigeria with obtaining the requisite approval from FIRS pursuant to Section 29 of the Companies Income Tax Act.
- Assisted the Managing Director of a real estate investment company with estate planning and private client services.
- Provided holding companies in Nigeria with operational model optimization services and advisory services on several tax and legal issues.
- Provided tax advisory services to a leading financial advisory and asset management company with respect to the merger of two of its subsidiaries and identified potential tax exposures and quantified the tax assets to be transferred to the enlarged entity.
- Assisted a holding company with obtaining a ruling on exemption from excess dividend tax rule from the Federal Inland Revenue Service.
- Assisted a leading manufacturing firm in Nigeria with processing application for exemption from commencement and cessation rule pursuant to Section 29 of the Companies Income Tax Act.
- Provided tax advisory service and implementation support on an EPC Contract executed in Nigeria
- Provided tax due diligence services to an upstream oil and gas company on the acquisition of a Jetty and other heavy-duty equipment in Nigeria.

**B. TAX DISPUTE RESOLUTION AND LITIGATION EXPERIENCE**

- Represented an upstream oil and gas company in a tax dispute with the Federal Inland Revenue Service on the issue of tax deductibility of gas flaring penalties.
- Provided tax advisory services and tax dispute resolution support for a leading manufacturing company with respect to a tax audit carried out by the Federal Inland Revenue Service (FIRS).
- Represented an indigenous oil and gas company in a tax dispute with the Federal Inland Revenue Service on excess dividend tax assessment raised by the FIRS on the company.
- Negotiated settlement on behalf of a non-resident holding company, engaged in the business of processing visa applications, with respect to an assessment issued by the FIRS on turnover basis.

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\* Please note that this profile also captures the experience of key members of the Tax Practice Team



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### **LITIGATION AND DISPUTE RESOLUTION PRACTICE GROUP**

#### **INTRODUCTION**

Although we maintain a robust presence in the Nigerian corporate commercial transactions market, we also devote a significant amount of our resources to providing our Clients with timely and pragmatic dispute resolution legal service by entrusting our clients' needs to seasoned trial lawyers and arbitrators who constitute our Dispute Resolution Group. We boast of enviable expertise in both domestic and international arbitration as well as negotiation, conciliation and mediation.

We provide cost-effective advocacy and attempt to settle disputes amicably, with the goal of reaching an expedient and successful resolution of the issues in contention.

#### **AD MIRALTY, ENERGY, MARITIME AND EXTRACTIVE INDUSTRY**

- Representing two oil and gas operators in a multi-billion Dollar environmental claim at a Federal High Court in Niger Delta Region.
- Advised and represented an oil and gas company in its successful rebuttal of tax liabilities of over US \$10 million at the FIRS.
- Represented Bank PHB (Keystone Bank) successfully in the recovery of over N1 billion due to it from an admiralty action in rem concerning approximately, 2,400 metric tons of AGO on board the vessel referred to as MT Ella L.
- Represented Conoil Pie successfully against an action filed by Express Cargo Liner Shipping Co. Ltd for a claim of approximately N70 Million as demurrage and damages for breach of maritime contract.
- Defended Messrs Unland Refining & Marketing in a maritime claim of US\$1 Million instituted against it by Messrs Nava le Francaise (Owners of MT Tour Pomerol).
- Representing an indigenous maritime operator in a matter seeking the judicial interpretation of the Compulsory Pilotage laws and delineation of the port limits in Nigeria.
- Acting as Counsel to a major petroleum marketer in a suit filed by Industrial Training Fund (I.T.F.) for the sum of N101.5 million plus interest and orders for declaration and injunction against our client.
- Presently defending a corporate entity relating to a claim of N1.5 billion initiated by the Industrial Training Fund (I.T.F)

#### **ARBITRATION AND ALTERNATIVE DISPUTE RESOLUTION**

- Represented a Claimant in a USD 350 million ongoing London arbitration against some IOCs.
- Acted as a counsel on a London Arbitration involving a claim of USD13 million against one of the top 6 crude oil traders in the world.



- A partner of the firm was one of the three-man arbitral panel that successfully conducted arbitral proceedings between the exploration and production subsidiary of a leading indigenous oil and gas company and a major Nigerian commercial Bank in a claim for a total sum of US\$12 million plus interest at the rate of 17% per annum from August 2009 till the conclusion of arbitration. The Tribunal's unanimous award of US\$12 million was accepted and honored by both parties.
- Successfully represented a leading oil and gas downstream company on its mediation with a Trade Union Body on a claim of accumulated arrears of revised pensions and gratuity in the approximate sum of N3 billion and secured a 50% reduction of the trade union's claim.
- Representing one of the quoted companies in Nigeria in an arbitration involving a claim of over N1 billion relating to alleged breach of share option scheme.
- A Partner in the Firm is part of a 3 - man arbitral tribunal for the determination of a \$170 million contractual claim relating to development of gas infrastructure.
- Partners in the Firm from time to time are appointed as Expert witnesses to international arbitrations.

## **BANKING AND FINANCE**

- Successfully defended a major Nigerian bank in a N29.1 billion suit arising from the private placement of shares in a Financial Institution in Nigeria, and handling the appeals arising out of it. Representing a Nigerian bank in a suit filed by a telecommunication company claiming the sum of over N4.5 billion in addition to declaratory and injunctive reliefs.
- Represented one of the largest indigenous energy group and one of its major directors in an action challenging the directives of the CBN Bankers Committee compelling a Nigerian bank to transfer 911,000 Zain shares to its debtor-customer even though the current holders had prior to the directive purchased the shares for valuable consideration of N375 million since 2004.
- Successfully defended a Nigerian bank in a N50 billion class action filed by customers of the bank in connection with unauthorized ATM withdrawals.
- Represented a Nigerian Bank successfully at the High Court in an enforcement action filed by a civil construction company in connection with an order to transfer deposits in the sum of N8.993 billion held by it to the Court's Chief Registrar's account pending the determination of the substantive suit.



- Acted as Counsel for Securities & Exchange Commission (SEC) against two Nigerian banks participating in the merger of six banks that constitute the present-day Enterprise Bank Limited challenging the sale/transfer of 984,714,071 units of shares of Spring Bank Pie valued at about N7. 8 billion to entities connected to a named Bank in a controversial hostile take-over bid.
- Represented one of the major Nigerian banks and its subsidiary in a suit whereby a party sought a declaration that they are entitled to full allotment of 13 million units of Zenith Bank shares which they applied for at the Bank's last public offering of shares plus total monetary damages of N233 million.
- Represented a group of shareholders of two Banks in two representative actions against the CBN action in removing the executive management of the affected Banks without recourse to the Shareholders of the Banks.
- Representing a commercial Bank in various cases involving a loan dispute with some of its customers which have a combined claim of about N2.505 Billion against it.
- Representing a commercial Bank against some litigants who sought the discharge of an Order of the lower Court ordering the Bank to transfer deposits in the sum of N8.993 Billion held by it to the Court's Chief Registrar's account pending the determination of the substantive suit.

## **CAPITAL MARKETS AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS**

- Representing a Nigerian bank in a class action against a Financial Group, their directors, Issuing Houses and Regulators by some investors who bought substantial quantity of shares totaling over N30 billion being the value of 4.3 billion ordinary shares of 50 kobo each at N7 per share offered during the BGL private placement exercise.
- Represented the Securities & Exchange Commission ("SEC") in an action pending at the Public Offer of shares involving a liquidated bank.
- Representing the SEC in a post - merger adjustment claim brought by one of the federating banks in a scheme of merger involving six banks at the Federal High Court and the Court of Appeal.
- Defending the Security and Exchange Commission in a suit filed by an unauthorized Fund Management Company whose operation was shut down by the Commission.
- Representing a major telecommunication company as a retained Counsel for their litigation portfolio
- Advising a shareholder of one of the emerging telecommunication companies in respect of its rights and obligations under the Shareholders' Agreement.



## **ELECTION PETITION CASES**

- Representing the Independent National Electoral Commission in a Gubernatorial, a Federal House of Representative and State House of Assembly election disputes arising from the 2019 general election;
- Representing a candidate in a pre - election dispute in connection with the conduct of gubernatorial primaries of a major political party in Nigeria in connection with the 2019 general elections.
- Successfully represented the Independent Electoral Commission (“INEC”) in 18 election petition appeals arising from the 2011 Gubernatorial, State House of Assembly and National Assembly Elections in Ogun and Oyo States from the Election Tribunals up to the final appeal level.
- Represented INEC in the Supreme Court pre - election appeal against a governor of a North - Eastern State.
- Part of the legal team that successfully defended the President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria at the 2011 Election petition cases at the Court of Appeal and the Supreme Court.
- Successfully represented the Independent Electoral Commission (“INEC”) in selected election petition appeals arising from the 2015 Gubernatorial, State House of Assembly and National Assembly Elections in Lagos State from the Election Tribunals up to the final appeal level.

## **INSOLVENCY AND DEBT RECOVERY MATTERS**

- Recovery of a N6.5 Billion debt for a financial institution via appointment as a Receiver Manager over the assets of the debtor;
- Recovery of a N6.5 Billion debt for a financial institution arising from a syndicated facilities and term loan;
- Recovery of N3.3 Billion debt through a combination of litigation, Administrative Hearing at the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) and negotiated settlements for a stockbroking Firm against a Bank over improper treatment of subscription and allotment of shares.
- Recovery of N2 Billion through Receivership /Management for a mid-tier commercial Bank from debtors.
- Ongoing Winding up proceedings to recover over N4 Billion for a bank.
- Receivership /Management appointment by Keystone Bank Ltd over Optima Group and Bloomberg TV Africa to recover about N1.4 Billion Naira.
- Recovered trade debt of USD 2 Million for an Engineering company through a winding up petition of the creditors.
- Judgment through and Undefended List procedure at the Federal High Court to recover the sum of N175 Million against F.C & T Oil Ltd and attachment of bank accounts of the company through garnishee proceedings.





- Successfully joined a Creditors Club on behalf of two creditors in the winding up proceedings for Afren with substantial claims at the Federal High Court.
- Successfully joined a Creditor winding up petition in a suit to recover substantial debt owed to our clients by Belpob Limited.

### **LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT CASES**

- Representing a financial institution in respect of a suit instituted by 287 ex staff on a claim of about NIO Billion for alleged breach of their employment contract;
- Successfully represented a Client in a N70 Billion claim by about 74 ex staff in respect of an alleged breach of their contract of employment.
- Represented a Client in a Trade Union dispute with a Trade Union Body on issues bothering on unionisation;
- Successfully obtained an order restraining the picketing of an organisation by a Trade Union body on the alleged ground of breach of employment contract of its members.
- Represented a financial institution in a claim for breach of employment instituted by an ex staff.



## **ALLIANCE LAW FIRM**

We are a full-service law firm with a depth of proven experience and expertise in Corporate Commercial transactions and dispute resolution

### **ALLIANCE CORPORATE SECRETARIES LIMITED (ACSL)**

#### **INTRODUCTION**

Alliance Corporate Secretaries Limited undertakes the Firm's Company Secretarial Governance and Regulatory Compliance Services. ACSL was registered as a limited liability company at the Corporate Affairs Commission ("CAC") in 2012. ACSL offer advisory services on business establishment in Nigeria and facilitate the incorporation of companies at the CAC.

ACSL expertise extends to assisting start-ups and existing companies with foreign equity participation in their capital structure, including obtaining foreign investment approvals mandated by the law. These approvals include registration with the Nigerian Investment Promotion Commission and obtaining business permit. ACSL currently serves a diverse clientele spanning various sectors of the Nigerian economy, such as financial services, oil and gas, engineering services, real estate and property development, media and entertainment, power and energy, telecommunication, manufacturing, hospitality, capital markets, information technology and logistics.

ACSL team comprises highly skilled professionals who are members of the Institute of Chartered Secretaries of Nigeria and are also registered with Financial Reporting Council of Nigeria

#### **ACSL range of services includes:**

- Company Secretarial Services
- Board Support
- Corporate Governance and Regulatory Compliance Services to Local and offshore entities.
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#### **Our esteemed clients includes:**

- ABSA Group
- Novo Nordisk Group
- Nestoil Limited (2008-2023)



- Neconde Energy Limited (JV Partner OML 42, 2011-2023)
- E-Tranzact Global Group Limited
- Energy Shield Petrochemical Limited
- Frontier Risk Management Nigeria Limited
- Shiptside Drydock limited
- Gobowen exploration and production company
- Century Power Generation limited
- Nestav Aviation Limited
- Amaranta Oil Development Limited
- Marine & Offshore Logistics Limited
- Eraskon Nigeria Limited
- Linkifin Limited
- Chika's WholeFoods Africa Limited
- Hudson Sandler Africa Limited
- Lipa Later Limited
- XCEL Incorporation Uk
- Paramount City Limited
- Liftman Petroleum Limited
- Baines Credit Microfinance Limited



# ALLIANCE LAW FIRM

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