

**THE FEDERAL HIGH COURT OF NIGERIA
IN THE ABUJA JUDICIAL DIVISION
HOLDEN AT ABUJA
ON FRIDAY THE 15TH DAY OF DECEMBER, 2023
BEFORE HIS LORDSHIP, HON. JUSTICE G.K. OLOTU
JUDGE**

SUIT NO: FHC/ABJ/CS/482/2023

BETWEEN:

1. CHIEF BOLAJI AYORINDE, SAN, OFR
2. MELA AUDU NUNGHE, SAN
3. AMB. GARBA GAJAM
4. CHIEF EMEKA ICHOKU
5. MRS CHIOMA FERGUSON
6. TEJUMOLA ADIGUN

PLAINTIFFS

(Suing for themselves and as promoters of "Nigeria Law Society"; or "Nigeria Bar Society" or "Society of Nigeria Lawyers", or "Nigeria Lawyers Society" or "Association Of Legal Practitioners of Nigeria")



AND

CORPORATE AFFAIRS COMMISSION

DEFENDANT

120972421837

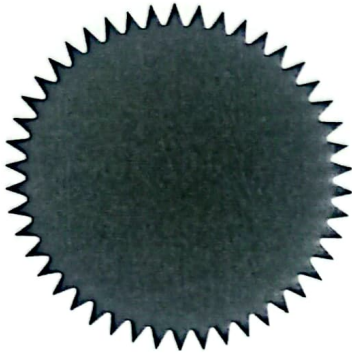
ORDER

UPON this Suit, dated and filed on 11th April, 2023 and coming up today before this Honourable Court for the following eight reliefs sought by the Plaintiffs against the Defendant, to wit:-

1. A **DECLARATION OF THIS HONOURABLE COURT** that the Plaintiffs and/or lawyers, legal practitioners or barristers and/or solicitors of the Supreme Court of Nigeria, admitted to practice law in Nigeria, are free to form, associate, and/or join


**HON. JUSTICE G.K. OLOTU
JUDGE**

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HON. JUSTICE G.K. OLOTU
JUDGE

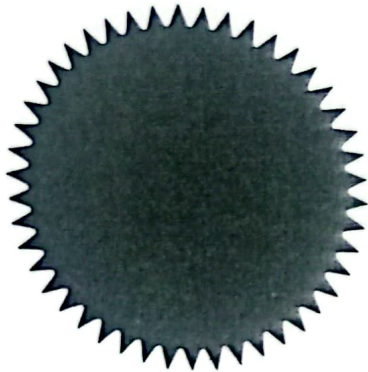
any lawful association of lawyers, legal practitioners or barristers and solicitors of the Supreme Court of Nigeria of their choice, that provides for their welfare and protects their interests.

2.A DECLARATION OF THIS HONOURABLE COURT that the Plaintiffs, and/or lawyers, legal practitioners or barristers and/or solicitors of the Supreme Court of Nigeria, admitted to practice law in Nigeria, do not require "National Spread" as a precondition for valid registration as an incorporated trustee by the Defendant.

3.A DECLARATION OF THIS HONOURABLE COURT that proposed names: "**Nigerian Law Society**"; or "**Nigerian Bar Society**" and "**Society of Nigerian Lawyers**"; "**Nigerian Lawyers' Society**"; or "**Association of Legal Practitioners of Nigeria**", submitted on behalf of the Plaintiffs for approval and subsequent registration by the Defendant are not similar and/or closely similar to the "**Nigeria Bar Association**" such that it could mislead the general public; and that the names herein as submitted for approval and registration, by the Plaintiffs, do not fall within either the limits of restrictions or prohibition contemplated under Section 852 of the Companies and Allied Matters Act, 2020 (CAMA 2020) and the extant CAC Operations Checklists 2022.

4.A DECLARATION OF THIS HONOURABLE COURT that the Plaintiffs, and/ or lawyers, legal practitioners or barristers and/or solicitors of the


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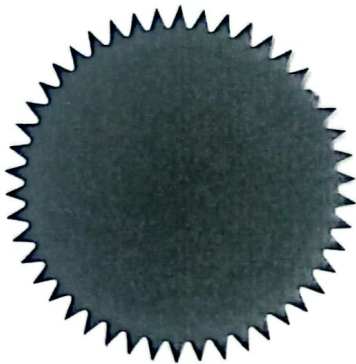

HON. JUSTICE G.K. OLOTU
JUDGE

Supreme Court of Nigeria, admitted to practice law in Nigeria do not require a "letter of no objection" from any other association as a pre-condition for valid registration as an incorporated trustees by the Defendant.

5.A DECLARATION that it is unlawful and illegal for the Defendant to refuse to register or impede the registration of the Plaintiffs and/ or lawyers, legal practitioners or barristers and/or solicitors of the Supreme Court of Nigeria, admitted to practice law in Nigeria as an incorporated trustee of lawyers, legal practitioners and/or barristers and solicitors of the Supreme Court of Nigeria.

6.A DECLARATION that the following proposed name: "Nigerian Law Society"; or "Nigerian Bar Society" and "Society of Nigerian Lawyers"; "Nigerian Lawyers' Society"; or Association of Legal Practitioners of Nigeria" submitted on behalf of the Plaintiffs for approval by Defendant, are not within either the limits of the restrictions or prohibition contemplated under Section 852 of the Companies and Allied Matters Act, 2020 (CAMA 2020) and the extant CAC Operations Checklists 2022.

7.AN ORDER directing the Defendant to approve for registration, and thereafter register any of the proposed names submitted to it on behalf of the Plaintiffs, being "Nigerian Law Society" or "Nigerian Bar Society" and "Society of Nigerian Lawyers" or and "Society of Nigerian Lawyers"; "Nigerian Lawyers' Society"; or "Association of Legal



G.K. Olotu

HON. JUSTICE G.K. OLOTU
JUDGE

Practitioners of Nigeria", and issue a certificate of registration to that effect.

8. **SUCH ORDER OR FURTHER ORDERS(S)** as this Honourable Court may deem fit to make in the circumstances of this case.

AFTER a careful consideration of all depositions, exhibits and arguments, for and against the grant of the Plaintiffs' reliefs.

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED AS FOLLOWS:

1. **THAT** the Defendant is hereby ordered to approve for registration and thereafter register any of the proposed names submitted to it on behalf of the Plaintiffs, being: "Nigerian Law Society" or "Nigerian Bar Society" and "Society of Nigeria Lawyers", Nigerian Lawyers' Society" or Association of Legal Practitioners of Nigeria" and issue a certificate of registration to that effect.
2. **THAT** the 6 (six) Declaratory reliefs sought by the Plaintiffs are ordered as prayed.
Consequently, Judgment is entered in favour of the Plaintiffs.

ISSUED AT ABUJA under the seal of the Court and the hand of the Presiding Judge this 15th day of December, 2023.

[Signature]
CHIBUZO L. CHIKELU
REGISTRAR

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ABUJA

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