

8th September, 2026

The Secretary,
Legal Practitioners Disciplinary Committee (LPDC),
Body of Benchers Complex,
Plot 688, Institute and Research District,
Jabi, Abuja.

Copy: **Mohammed Ndarani, Mohammed, SAN**

**A PETITION PRESENTED AGAINST MOHAMMED NDARANI
MOHAMMED, SAN FOR GRAVE BREACH OF THE RULES OF
PROFESSIONAL CONDUCT BORDERING ON CONFLICT OF INTEREST,
VIOLATION OF CLIENT CONFIDENTIALITY, MALA FIDES DESTRUCTION
OF THE FRUITS OF LITIGATION, AND CONDUCT UNBECOMING OF A
LEGAL PRACTITIONER**

1. INTRODUCTION & CAPACITY OF THE PETITIONER

I am the Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer of **Mauritz Walton Nigeria Limited** (hereinafter referred to as "my Company"). I present this petition in my official capacity as a deeply aggrieved client whose absolute professional trust, corporate confidence, and proprietary case strategies have been severely compromised and weaponised by our lead appellate counsel, **Mohammed Ndarani Mohammed, SAN** (practising under Solace Law Chambers / Ndarani (SAN) & Co.).

This petition is brought pursuant to **Rule 55(2) of the Rules of Professional Conduct for Legal Practitioners (RPC), 2022**. It highlights an egregious, concurrent conflict of interest that inflicts extreme scandal upon the legal profession, violates the sacred duty of

corporate fidelity, and actively subverts the fair administration of justice.

2. THE APPLICABLE ETHICAL STANDARDS BREACHED

The crux of this complaint lies in the blatant violation of **Rule 17 (1), (2), (3), and (4)**, as well as **Rule 1** of the Rules of Professional Conduct. For context, these rules strictly mandate that:

- **Rule 17(1):** A lawyer must disclose all conflicting relations or connections to a controversy before accepting a retainer.
- **Rule 17(2):** Except with the client's consent after full disclosure, a lawyer shall not accept a retainer if their professional judgment is or may reasonably be affected by personal, business, or financial interests.
- **Rule 17(4):** A lawyer shall not accept proffered employment if the exercise of their independent professional judgment is likely to be adversely affected, or if it involves representing differing interests.
- **Rule 1:** A lawyer shall uphold and observe the rule of law, promote and foster the cause of justice, maintain a high standard of professional conduct, and completely abstain from conduct unbecoming of a legal practitioner.

3. STATEMENT OF BACKGROUND FACTS

The Nature of My Company's Business & Consultancy

The Federal Government of Nigeria and various State Governments routinely engaged in foreign loan reconciliations regarding excess debits from the Paris and London Club refunds. Recognizing the complexity of these international finance over-deductions, the **Government of Benue State** (the 1st Appellant herein) along with other sub-nationals appointed my Company, **Mauritz Walton Nigeria Limited**, as expert financial consultants to forensically analyze, reconcile, and recover these excess debits under the "first line charge".

Our History of Retaining the Respondent as Lead Counsel

To enforce payment of our hard-earned consultancy fees from defaulting State Governments who refused to pay after receiving their refunds, my Company took **Mohammed Ndarani Mohammed, SAN** into absolute corporate confidence. We held extensive, highly

sensitive strategy meetings and formally briefed him to institute recovery actions across the Federation.

Specifically, my Company jointly or severally issued explicit letters of instruction and paid substantial legal fees **running into hundreds of millions of Naira** to the Respondent for the following briefs, as evidenced by our United Bank for Africa (UBA) PLC corporate account statements attached as enclosures:

1. **The Delta State Brief:** On 10th February 2022, we appointed him to sue the Delta State Government in **Suit No: FHC/PH/CS/34/2022**. This resulted in a successful Garnishee Order Absolute entered on 2nd November 2022. He subsequently handled the appeal (**CA/PH/322/2022**) and filed a pending Notice of Appeal before the Supreme Court on our behalf on 18th April 2023 (**Enclosure WALT 4**).
2. **The Ebonyi State Brief:** He was similarly instructed via a joint letter of instruction to prosecute **Suit No: FHC/PH/CS/35/2022** against the Government of Ebonyi State. In that case, he vigorously and successfully fought for my Company's legal right to be paid these exact Paris and London Club consultancy fees.
3. **The Cross-River State Brief:** He was also retained by my Company as lead counsel to recover our consultancy fees from the Cross-River State Government before the Federal High Court, Abuja in **Suit No: FHC/ABJ/CS/43/18**.

By virtue of this extensive, multi-year attorney-client relationship, Mohammed Ndarani Mohammed, SAN remains an active counsel to my Company at the Supreme Court. He is in possession of highly confidential, privileged, and proprietary strategic information regarding how our consultancy fees are calculated, structured, and legally defended.

4. THE ACT OF GROSS ETHICAL INFRACTION, CONCURRENT DIVIDED LOYALTY, AND MALA FIDES HOSTILE FILINGS

The shocking event giving rise to this petition occurred in relation to **Suit No: FCT/HC/CV/3693/2025** (assigned to Hon. Justice Bello Kaw at Apo High Court) and the subsequent **Appeal Number: CA/ABJ/CV/1712/2025** and **Appeal Number:**

CA/ABJ/CV/1713/2025 currently before the Court of Appeal, Abuja Judicial Division.

My Company successfully sued the **Government of Benue State & the Attorney General of Benue State** under the undefended list procedure to recover our consultancy debt. The High Court entered judgment in our favor on 17th November 2025, awarding my Company the judgment sum of **₦7,448,113,025.42**. A Garnishee Order Absolute was subsequently entered against UBA PLC on 4th December 2025.

To our utter dismay, **Mohammed Ndarani Mohammed, SAN** accepted a brief from the Defendants/Appellants (the Government of Benue State) to represent them *against* his own client, my Company. He has launched a relentless, hostile, and multi-front adversarial assault designed to break the judgment, stay an already executed absolute garnishee order, and stop my Company from receiving the fruits of litigation:

1. **Hostile Applications at the Lower Court:** Immediately following the delivery of the judgment, the Respondent filed an **Application to Set Aside the Judgment** and a separate **Motion to Set Aside the Judgment**, attempting to erase the court's decision.
2. **Frustration of Enforcement:** In an aggressive bid to block our financial recovery, he actively filed an **Appeal against the Garnishee Order Nisi**, seeking to paralyze the enforcement processes before the bank funds could be completely moved.
3. **Appellate Overreach and Fair Hearing Pollutions:** He proceeded to file and initiate the substantive **Appeal against the Final Judgment** under **Appeal No: CA/ABJ/CV/1712/2025**.

The Inexcusable Duplicity of the Respondent's Conduct:

- **The Identity of the Principal Witness:** In the Ebonyi State matter (**Suit No: FHC/PH/CS/35/22**) and Delta State Government matter (**Suit No: FHC/PH/CS/34/2022**), the Respondent relied directly on my own deposition as the primary evidence to win his case. In these new applications and appeals, he is now cross-examining, attacking, and seeking to tear down the exact same testimonies and facts he previously validated.

- **The Duplicity of the Legal Argument:** In one judicial division, the Respondent argued ferociously that my Company is legally entitled to its Paris Club consultancy fees. In these High Court motions and appellate processes, using the insider knowledge he gained from our private strategy sessions, he is arguing with equal ferocity that my Company is *not* entitled to those exact same species of consultancy fees.

My Company has **never** given any consent, waiver, or clearance to the Respondent to switch sides, abandon his loyalty, or represent our debtors. His filing of multiple applications to frustrate our judgment places my firm at a massive tactical disadvantage, thoroughly corrupts the principle of a fair trial, and constitutes a textbook case of professional double-dealing.

5. THE COMPELLING NEED FOR INTERVENTION & INVESTIGATION

As a corporate citizen and user of the Nigerian judicial system, my Company relies entirely on the absolute sanctity of the client-lawyer privilege. Mohammed Ndarani Mohammed, SAN is not an ordinary practitioner; he wears the highly prestigious silk of a **Senior Advocate of Nigeria (SAN)**.

When a bearer of this coveted rank exhibits such a blatant failure of fidelity, loyalty, and confidentiality, it signals to the business community—both local and international—that corporate secrets given to Nigerian lawyers are unsafe. It destroys public confidence in legal administration and sets a toxic, destructive example for younger members of the bar who look up to Senior Advocates as ethical benchmarks.

6. PRAYERS AND CONCLUSION

As the Managing Director of Mauritz Walton Nigeria Limited, I refuse to watch our proprietary secrets used as weapons against us by the very lawyer we paid to protect them.

I therefore humbly pray My Noble Lord to refer this matter to the **Legal Practitioners Disciplinary Committee (LPDC)** and the **Legal Practitioners Privileges Committee (LPPC)** to:

1. Initiate an immediate, deep-dive investigation into this petition regarding the Respondent's conduct across both the High Court of the FCT and the Court of Appeal.

2. Direct an immediate inquiry into the concurrent conflict of interest and breach of confidentiality committed by Mohammed Ndarani Mohammed, SAN in Suit No: FCT/HC/CV/3693/2025 and Appeal No: CA/ABJ/CV/1712/2025 and Appeal No: CA/ABJ/CV/1713/2025.
3. Apply the **maximum professional sanctions** provided by law, including the recommendation for suspension or the complete stripping of his rank as a Senior Advocate of Nigeria where culpability is established, to serve as a definitive deterrent against future corporate betrayal.

Please accept, My Noble Lord, the highest and most respectful assurances of my corporate regards.

Mauritz Walton Nigeria Limited



Dr. Maurice Ibe, Ksc, MBA, Ph.d
Group Executive Chairman/Managing Consultant

ENCLOSURE: INDEX OF ATTACHED EXHIBITS

Below is the chronological schedule of the evidentiary documents annexed to this petition to prove the detailed facts of professional misconduct:

Enclosure Mark	Description of Document	Date of Document	Purpose of Document / Fact Proven
Enclosure WALT 1	Joint Letter of Instruction issued by Mauritz Walton Nigeria Limited and Andrew Bishopton Limited to Mohammed Ndarani Mohammed, SAN (Solace Law Chambers).	10th February, 2022	Proves the establishment of the attorney-client relationship and the specific retainership regarding Paris Club fee recoveries.

Enclosure WALT 2	Certified True Copy (CTC) of Garnishee Order Absolute in Suit No: FHC/PH/CS/34/2022 against the Delta State Government.	2nd November, 2022	Proves that the Respondent actively and successfully prosecuted the Paris Club fee recovery brief as lead counsel for the Petitioner.
Enclosure WALT 3	Certified True Copy (CTC) of Garnishee Order Absolute in Suit No: FHC/PH/CS/35/2022 against the Ebonyi State Government.	2nd November, 2022	Proves the Respondent vigorously argued for the validity of the Petitioner's Paris Club consultancy fees, relying on Dr. Maurice Ibe's deposition.
Enclosure WALT 4	Notice of Appeal filed before the Supreme Court of Nigeria on behalf of Mauritz Walton Nigeria Limited by the Respondent.	18th April, 2023	Proves that the Respondent remains active counsel for the Petitioner at the apex court, maintaining an ongoing fiduciary duty.
Enclosure WALT 5	United Bank for Africa (UBA) PLC Account Statement of Mauritz Walton Nigeria Limited (with relevant payments highlighted).	Various (2022 – 2023)	Provides financial evidence of substantial legal fees paid by the Petitioner to the Respondent's firm (Ndarani & Co.).
Enclosure WALT 6	Certified True Copy (CTC) of Judgment in Suit No: FCT/HC/CV/3693/2025	17th November, 2025	Establishes the Judgment debt of ₦7,448,113,025.42 awarded under

delivered by Hon.
Justice Bello Kaw.

the undefended
list in favor of the
Petitioner against
Benue State.

Enclosure WALT 7 **Certified True Copy (CTC) of the Garnishee Order Absolute** against United Bank for Africa (UBA) PLC at the lower court.

4th
December,
2025

Proves that the
enforcement
process was
completed and
the funds
attached prior to
the Respondent's
hostile
intervention.

Enclosure WALT 8 **Copies of Lower Court Hostile Applications and** Ex-Parte Appellate Orders filed/obtained by Mohammed Ndarani Mohammed, SAN.

Post-
November
2025

Concrete
evidence of the
Respondent filing
the **Application to Set Aside**, and
conducting secret
proceedings on
8th December
2025.

Enclosure WALT 9 **Motion on Notice & Affidavit of Facts** deposed to by Dr. Maurice Ibe in Appeal No: CA/ABJ/CV/1712/2025.

15th
December,
2025

Demonstrates that
the
disqualification
application for
concurrent
conflict of interest
is **officially pending before the Court of Appeal**.