COUNCIL OF LEGAL EDUCATION
NIGERIAN LAW SCHOOL

November 4. 2026

OFFICIAL PUBLIC STATEMENT

ALLEGED EXCLUSION OF FEMALE MUSLIM CANDIDTES WEARING HIJAB FROM THE BAR FINAL EXAMINATIONS OF 31ST OCTOBER, 2026.

The attention of the Nigerian Law School has been drawn to reports alleging harassment, intimidation and exclusion of female Muslim candidates wearing hijab during the Bar Final Examinations held on Saturday, October 31, 2026. This is false in all particular material. The school categorically states that it has no policy or institutional practice of religious discrimination. It upholds the constitutional rights, religious freedoms and dignity of all candidates, irrespective of faith.

The Bar Final Examinations are governed by established regulations designed to ensure proper identification, examination security and academic integrity. On the 29 day of October, 2026, during the Bar Part I examinations a female student with her Hijab on was found to have hiden with ear pod and strapped a phone to her thigh. This incident is still being investigated under the school examinations rules and extant regulation. The apprehension of the female student for examination misconduct during the Bar Part I examinations further underscores the necessity for strict and effective examination security measures. These measures, are being applied fairly and without discrimination.

The school recognises the constitutional protections guaranteed under Sections 38 and 42 of the 1999 Constitution and remains committed to respecting the religious rights of all candidates while safeguarding the integrity of its examinations.
The Nigerian Law School therefore urges the general public and stakeholders to exercise restraint, avoid premature conclusions and allow the appropriate institutional processes to establish the facts. The School remains committed to fairness, inclusiveness, professionalism and the uninterrupted discharge of its statutory mandate.

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