

Godson C. UGOCHUKWU, Esq. FCIArb

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24/Sept/1974; Male

Suite 201E, 2nd Floor (East Wing), Lagos City Hall, Catholic Mission Street, Lagos Island, Lagos.

KEY COMPETENCIES

- Several years of consulting, supervisory, management experience
- Ability to quickly establish rapport with parties and counsel and enable them to recognize their legal risks
- As an arbitrator, known to be fair, practical, unflappable, and not afraid to make tough decisions.
- Takes initiative and perseveres even in the most elusive and trying of cases
- Collaborates well with diverse clients of varying socio-economic and cultural backgrounds
- Excellent communication, research & analytical Skills
- Quick study, prepared, personable, approachable, creative, flexible and able to deliver under pressure & multi-task
- Ability to think strategically and holistically
- Strong management & supervisory skills
- Stellar reputation in debt recovery and insolvency practice

EDUCATION

- **LLB (Hons)**- University of Nigeria, Nsukka
- **BL**- Nigerian Law School

PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATIONS & TRAININGS

- Fellow of the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators (FCIArb).
- Barrister-at-Law (BL) (Barrister and Solicitor of the Supreme Court of Nigeria)
- Bachelor of Laws (LLB) (Nig.)

MEMBERSHIPS & AFFILIATIONS

- Nigerian Bar Association
- International Bar Association
- Arbitration and Litigation Committees of the International Bar Association.
- Swiss-Chinese Law Association (SCLA)

EXTRACURRICULAR APPOINTMENTS

- Chairman of Guinea Insurance Plc.

WORK EXPERIENCE

Mogbeyi Sagay & Co. (Associate) February 2002-March 2008

- Gained experience on wide-ranging experience in Corporate, Company and Commercial Practice, including Insolvency Law, Information Technology (IT) Law, Oil & Gas, Admiralty Law, Aviation Law, Taxation, Banking Law, Civil and Commercial Litigation, Arbitration and Criminal Law.

Fortress Solicitors (Partner) April 2008 till date

- Renders extensive advisory and documentation services on the above areas of law
- Mediated and arbitrated legal disputes for decades, first as an advocate and later as a mediator and arbitrator
- Extensive trial and appellate court experience as an advocate
- Served with a panel of arbitrators
- Served as a Sole arbitrator in a number of issues including breach of contract dispute
- Responsible for guiding parties to mutually beneficial settlements to avoid court battles
- Research and applied relevant laws to develop appropriate recommendations
- Regularly acts as party appointed counsel as well as panel member or sole arbitrator in local and international Arbitrations including investor-state arbitrations.
- Leads the Dispute Resolution practice of the firm
- Serves regularly as a court-appointed arbitrator on various arbitration panels
- Constantly acts as Lead Counsel in the litigation of varied complex commercial and criminal matters and maintains consistent appearances before the various High Courts, the Court of Appeal and the Supreme Court.
- Advising and rendering legal services in various foreign investments in Nigeria.
- Led the team that advised a German manufacturer of household goods in its investment in Nigeria, in partnership with three local companies, resulting in the investment of U\$D50 million by the German company.
- Led the team that advised a group of local investors in a N1.3 Billion purchase of real estate from the Federal Government.
- Advised a Chinese manufacturer of smart phones and smart phones applications in its investment of U\$D 25 million in the Nigerian telecommunications industry;
- Advised an American coffee manufacturer in its partnership with a Nigerian agro-allied company, via a Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV) in their multi-million-dollar investment in of coffee bean production in Ivory Coast and Ghana;
- Led the team that advised a Swiss manufacturer of household goods in successfully raising equity through private placement by its Nigerian subsidiary and acted for the same company throughout the process of its listing on the Nigerian Stock Exchange;
- Advised on countless syndicated loan transactions both among local banks and between local and foreign banks. He has wide continental experience in commercial agreements and negotiations, and International Trade Law. He also has outstanding credits in the area of commercial and civil litigation and has a very consistent practice in all the superior courts in Nigeria.
- Advises various Nigerian and foreign blue-chip companies and investment firms on diverse issues in Nigerian Tax Law and represents clients at the various Tax Tribunals across the country.
- Reviews, advises and undertakes major, industry-wide impact litigations for Electricity Distribution Companies (DISCOs).