



# Ezeala Chukwuma

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31<sup>st</sup> May, 2017

Dear Senior Advocate, Senior & Colleague,

**LETTER OF INTENT TO CONTEST FOR THE POSITION OF THE CHAIRMAN OF THE  
NBA LAGOS BRANCH AT THE ELECTION SCHEDULED FOR 29<sup>TH</sup> DAY OF JUNE, 2017.**

Greetings to you and your family!

I respectfully use this opportunity to inform you that on **29<sup>th</sup> Day of June, 2017**, I shall contest the position of Chairman of the Nigerian Bar Association, Lagos Branch, ***The Premier Bar***, of which you are a distinguished member/elder.

I seek your indulgence to digest the herein enclosed summary of the objectives I intend to achieve if elected to serve in the office of Branch Chairman with your support and the support of our colleagues.

It is my promise to live up to your expectations if elected. I also assure you that I shall not betray the confidence reposed in me.

Yours faithfully,

**Ezeala Chukwuma**

*Raising A Responsive Bar!*

# Ezeala Chukwuma Wilson

3-5 Adeyemo Alakija Street, Victoria Island, Lagos.

E-mail: cwezeala@gmail.com; Tel: 08056811172

**SKILLS:** Legal Practitioner, Arbitrator, Mediator, Negotiator, Notary Public and CSO Development for Good Governance & Elections, Conflict Resolution Specialist.

## BIO DATA

- Date of Birth 16<sup>th</sup> May, 1971; Married
- Uzii town in Ideato North L.G.A, Imo State.

## MY INTENT:

This is to officially inform you that I will be vying for the office of the Chairman of our Branch, 'The Premier Branch' at the June 29, 2017 Elections. I respectfully seek your support and vote for the Office.

## MY VISION FOR THE NBA

An Association responsive to the needs of its members, young and the old; through active engagement with stakeholders for the enhanced and seamless practice of Law and the promotion of the Rule of Law.

## MISSION STATEMENT

To create an association that promotes the advancement of Legal Education, unhindered access to the courts, creation of schemes for mentoring younger colleagues, the promotion of the welfare, security and economic advancement of members in general.

## EMPLOYMENT RECORD:

- 2013 – till date: **Senior Partner**, Chancellor Chambers
- 2004 – 2013: **Managing Partner**, Chancellor Chambers
- Dec. 2006 – July 2007: **Program Manager:** Idasa Nigeria
- **2004: Researcher/Consultant** International IDEA, South Africa
- 2002 - 2004: **Program Manager/National Coordinator** JDPC on Good Governance programme in Nigeria.
- **2000 - 2001: Counsel**, Shita Bey Law office, Lagos.
- **1999 – 2000:- Counsel** S.B Mohammed & Co, Kaduna, Kaduna State

## PAST ACTIVITIES

2015 till date:	Member NBA, Lagos Branch Human Rights Committee
2009-2010	Secretary, Human Rights Committee (Arranged and took some NBA Lagos members to USA and Germany for some trainings and networking)
2011:	Secretary, NBA, Lagos Branch 2011 Law Summit Committee (organized a world class law week at Eko Hotel at highly subsidized rate)
2009– 2012	Member, NBA National Welfare committee
2009:	Vice Chairman, NBA, Lagos Branch Conference Planning Committee
2009–2011	Ex-officio Member, NBA, Lagos Branch
2006 – 2007	Project Manager/Consultant for International Institute for Democracy on DFID sponsored democracy projects for 2007 Elections (facilitated funds used for training & payment of NBA National including Lagos Branch for Election Monitoring during Dr. Olisa Agbakoba Presidency)

## MEMBERSHIP OF PROFESSIONAL BODIES

- Member, Nigerian Bar Association
- Member, International Bar Association, IBA

## RECENT PUBLICATIONS:

- Conflict of Laws in a Federation, A Comparative Analysis of Nigerian and United States Treatment of Tort Laws : 2012
- Co-Editor Election Training Manual of the JDPC (2007)

## NON-NBA ACTIVITES

- |           |   |
|-----------|---|
| 2011–2015 | President, National Association of Catholic Lawyers, Lagos, (increased membership from about 40 to about 580membes as well as income from about N300,000 to more than N6m in 2015 |
| 2002-2004 | National Coordinator, JDPC for the 2003 Elections, (I mobilized and effectively managed over \$10m in Donor funds for Election)   |

## QUALIFICATIONS:

- International Leadership Training School, Arlington, VA, USA - Certificate – January 2011 & 2013
- University of Lagos, - LLM, 2012
- The Nigerian Law School, Abuja, B.L 1999
- University of Nigeria, Enugu Campus, 1997
- Member, Commonwealth Lawyers Association
- Member, Chartered Institute of Arbitrators, CIArb, Nigeria
- Team leader and co-editor, Final Statement on the 2003 National elections of the JDPC (July 2003)
- The Legal Framework and the conduct of Tribunals in the 2003 Nigerian General Elections; A Publication of the International IDEA South Africa

## MY 3 – POINT AGENDA

### 1. Institutional and Organizational Sustainable Development

- Training and expansion of the secretariat staff to enhance service delivery
- Proper accountability and transparency in Branch finances and activities
- Speedy completion of the new Secretariat complex through transparent, accountable and collaborative engagement with critical stake-holders.
- Ensuring increased participation of members in NBA activities.

### 2. Human Resource Development through effective Continuing Legal Education and Grooming of Young lawyers

- Tackling barriers to professional development especially for the young lawyers
- Facilitating the adoption of innovations in education, including Webinars and Online courses to deliver effective and cost efficient Continuing Legal Education to members.
- Periodically train young lawyers and maintain a data base of qualified young lawyers for firms and organizations looking for lawyers to employ.
- Reversing the declining confidence in the profession

### 3. Structured engagement of stake-holders towards reduction of bottle-necks in practice.

- The challenges in respect of NBA Stamp, especially the issue of late release and terminal date for the Stamp or introduction of non-terminal stamp/seal.
- Ensuring our members participate actively in National NBA activities and benefit from any positive developments arising from the National.
- Creating a synergy between the Bar and the Bench for proper resolution of common issues affecting members and their clients, including non-sitting of courts without prior notice to lawyers, challenges in obtaining court processes and other allied matters.
- Well-thought-out plans for engagement with other relevant stakeholders such as the Police and other securities agencies, Lands Bureau, Probate office, Trademark/Designs department, Corporate Affairs Commission, to facilitate ease of access to services by members.

I therefore, respectfully seek your support and vote to achieve all these towards “Raising a Responsive Bar”.

Yours sincerely,

EZEALA Chukwuma