

# SIMEON ATUNBI

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## PROFILE

A highly productive, innovative and experienced legal professional, with 9 years of experience in corporate/commercial law and litigation.

## HIGHLIGHT OF SKILLS

- Strong background in alternative dispute resolution techniques
- Proven skills in advocacy, negotiation, research, co-ordination and office management
- Strong and energetic collaborator including client relationship management
- Experienced in providing sound legal advice in a fast-paced environment
- Excellent written and verbal communication skills

## LEGAL WORK EXPERIENCE

### COUNSEL /PARTNER

JUNE 2017 – JULY 2020

#### THE LLOYDS CORPORATE LAWYERS

*Boutique commercial law firm.*

- Drafted, negotiated and reviewed a wide variety of corporate/commercial legal agreements, such as joint venture agreements, confidentiality agreements, shareholders and partnership agreements, agency and hire purchase agreements, loan and mortgage agreements, franchise agreements etc.
- Drafted, negotiated and reviewed agreements related to real estate transactions i.e., Tenancy, Deed of Assignment and Transfer, Deed of Gift, Power of Attorney, Trust Deeds, Deed of Partition and Contract of Sale.
- Reviewed technical bids
- Obtained decree nisi, decree absolute and order of custody for petitioners in 6 contentious divorce proceedings
- Successfully argued an appeal in land title disputes between traditional title holders and land speculators in line with the principle of definitive certainty
- Resolved over 25 matters at the Lagos State Multi-Door Court House by means of alternative dispute resolution i.e., Mediation, Arbitration, Conciliation and in some cases hybrid of methods. Also prepared settlement agreements, memorandum of understanding and facilitated the amicable settlement and adoption of terms of settlements in pending matters before the court.
- Prepared, filed and processed trademark and copyright applications to protect intellectual property
- Facilitated several business development sessions which resulted in securing 40+ high profile and 10 other mid-size business clients
- Conducted due diligence and legal research for clients interested in property and equity acquisitions to glean the history of operations, previous transactions and credibility of prospective vendor
- Successfully argued several applications for interlocutory, injunctive reliefs and or remedies i.e., Joinder of parties, notice to produce, mandamus, restraining orders, substituted service, preliminary objections, dismissal order, stay of proceedings or execution, enforcement of fundamental right or bail, summary judgment.
- Drafted and argued application for judicial review of unsatisfactory administrative decisions with respect to the Consumer Protection Council, Nigerian Communications Commission, Securities and Exchange Commission, Nigerian Civil Aviation Authority etc.

### ASSOCIATE

APRIL 2015 – MAY 2017

#### CHARLES MUSA & Co.

*Corporate and litigation law firm*

- Formulated case theories, handled trials, drafted and filed final written addresses and argued defence in personal injury suits against corporate clients in the aviation, property and transportation industries
- Provided resources, legal authorities and precedents towards the favourable resolution of over 50 criminal and civil cases involving a certain corporate client at the various courts of record i.e. State and Federal High Court, Court of Appeal and the Supreme Court.
- Processed and obtained expatriate quota for corporate clients and work permit for potential foreign employees.
- Supervised junior associates in the firm in the conduct of cases in court to compile a report to the firm's management, provide updates to client and offered recommendations on the next line of actions.
- Created and structured an E-filing system which benchmarked the data storage in the firm.
- Drew up board and management meeting agendas, recorded minutes of meetings for several corporate clients and circulated same in an efficient time.
- Conducted due diligence i.e., title searches at the land registries, corporate searches at the Corporate Affairs Commission and litigation file searches at the court registries and archives to identify contentious title and determine legal and proprietary interests as precursor to acquisition of assets for various corporate and individual clients.
- Performed legal advisory role to corporate clients in oil and gas, transportation and hospitality businesses.
- Petitioned the Federal High Court for sequestration orders and winding up of indebted corporations to liquidate the assets and apply to it obligations to clients.
- Acted as receiver for the liquidation of assets of insolvent corporations based on appointments by the Federal High Court.
- Represented clients before administrative tribunals, special courts i.e., National Industrial Court (employment related and labour matters), Investment and Securities Tribunal (capital market and securities matters), Small Claims Court (monetary claims below N10 million), rent tribunals (tenancy matters), Consumer Protection Council.
- Regulatory compliance functions for clients i.e., filing annual or periodic returns at the Corporate Affairs Commission, Securities and Exchange Commission, Federal Inland Revenue Services and Department of Petroleum Resources.
- Registration of products at the National Agency for Food and Drug Administration and Control and the Standard Organisation of Nigeria etc.
- Successfully argued 5 criminal appeals.

#### **Accomplishments:**

- Recovered over N120 million (within a month) for an asset management partner by negotiating with the debtors to structure a repayment plan of overdue credits.
- Devised auditing system that retrieved over 200 litigation files from the Archives of the High Court for a thorough review of client's liabilities.
- Obtained judgment for the recovery of over N500 million for a wealth management scheme.
- Obtained judgment for the acquittal of an appellant in an appeal against a death sentence.

#### **COUNSEL AND EDITORIAL ASSOCIATE LAYI BABATUNDE, SAN. & CO.**

**JULY 2014- MARCH 2015**

#### *Law reporting and corporate law*

- Proof-read judgments of the apex court for reporting fresh judgments which enabled the firm meet the demands of subscribers timeously, thereby sustaining its goodwill and revenue.
- Compiled law reports to be posted on the online portal of the firm for the timely accessibility of subscribers.
- Edited and reviewed manuscript of journals and publications, reviewed 40 journals and 25 books.
- Attended and recorded minutes of court proceedings to reflect in details the reasoning of the judge, the submission of counsel and attendance of parties.
- Received mails containing the decisions of the apex court, arranged, assigned and circulated to editors and secretaries, copies of the judgment for editing.
- Co-ordinated the flow of information externally with clients and internally with other departments.
- Drafted and circulated official memoranda amongst staff members of the editorial department

- and consultants.
- Conducted research on issues centred on the reform of the Petroleum Act and drafted correspondence to the National Assembly and the National Law Reform Commission part of which culminated in the recently enacted Petroleum Industry Act.
- Attended to estate planning matters including drafting of wills, advising client on the concept of living trust, perfection of probate and obtaining letters of administration.
- Prepared briefs of argument in appeals before the supreme court and the various divisions of the court of appeal.
- Took clients' instructions and drafted articles and memorandum of association for incorporation of companies.
- Drafted constitution for incorporating trustees of non-profit undertaken

**COUNSEL  
2014**

**JANUARY 2013 – JUNE**

**MARANATHA CHAMBERS**

***Real estate consultant, corporate and litigation law firm***

- Drafted and reviewed complex documents and tripartite agreements, including trust deeds, joint venture agreements, partnership proposals, non-disclosure agreements and other legal documents.
- Drafted court pleadings in civil commercial cases.
- Conducted in-depth legal research, drafted and argued defendants' written addresses in criminal trials.
- Advised management of corporate clients on diverse legal issues emerging from fleet services, customers' concerns, legal compliance to avoid monetary loss, challenge defamatory publications and other actions in tort
- Handled incorporation and post-incorporation matters of companies.
- Filed tax returns and handled compliance for corporate clients.
- Conducted legal due diligence including litigation audit, data room inspection and asset registry searches for clients considering an acquisition target.
- Perfected clients' title to newly acquired properties i.e., obtaining governor's consent, stamping and registration at the land registry.
- Performed company secretarial duties, which also includes advisory functions on corporate governance and human resources.
- Drafted notices of appeal, compiled volumes of the record of appeal and argued appeals at the Court of Appeal and the Supreme Court.

**ASSOCIATE**

**M.A. TOYIN KESHINRO & ASSOCIATES  
2012**

**JANUARY 2012-DECEMBER**

***Criminal and Civil litigation law firm***

- Conducted client interviews, drafted court processes, prepared clients for trial and conducted trials in both civil and criminal matters
- Conducted research on marine, energy and intellectual property laws to advise clients and support arguments in contentious matters and applications before the Federal High Court
- Drafted correspondence and memorandum to clients and adverse counsel with respect to settlement, court updates and notes of fees
- Court appearances at the Supreme Court, Courts of Appeal and the Federal High Court
- Coordinated and obtained proof of evidence from prosecution preparatory to trials in criminal matters
- Represented clients at various arbitration panels, pre-trial proceedings and mediation sessions
- Attended corporate meetings to take minutes and render legal advice.

## **OTHER WORK EXPERIENCE**

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### **Insurance Advisor**

**MARCH 2021- PRESENT**

#### **TD Insurance, Saint John, NB Canada**

- Advised customers on various insurance needs.
- Daily reports on feedbacks from customers in respect of product satisfaction
- Provided customers with information about available loyalty packages and discounts
- Assisted customers to reserve available products and sharing knowledge on different insurance products, endorsements and coverages
- Branding the company and responding to customer's queries.
- Solved billing issues by looking into the accounts and sometimes escalating to the account department
- communication of sensitive information i.e., changes in premium, advise on personal liability, umbrella coverages and policy products

### **CUSTOMER SERVICE**

**OCTOBER 2020 - DECEMBER 2020**

#### **CONCENTRIX, CALGARY, ALBERTA, CANADA**

- Responding to customer's queries and needs by advising on suitable products
- Writing reports on feedbacks from customers in respect of product satisfaction
- Giving customers information about available loyalty packages
- Assisting customers to reserve available products and sharing knowledge on different products

## **EDUCATION**

### **NATIONAL COMMITTEE OF ACCREDITATION.**

**2021**

Completed 5 core exams to obtain qualifying certificate.

### **MASTER OF LAW.**

**2014**

#### **UNIVERSITY OF ILORIN, NIGERIA.**

(Equivalent to a Master of law in Canada as assessed by International Qualification Assessment Service)

### **BARRISTER AND SOLICITOR OF THE SUPREME COURT OF NIGERIA.**

**2012**

### **BACHELOR OF LAWS.**

**2010**

#### **UNIVERSITY OF ILORIN, NIGERIA.**

(Equivalent to a first professional degree as assessed by National Committee on Accreditation)



