



ABOUT ME

NTA EKPIKEN



EDUCATION

I had my secondary education at **Federal Government Girls College, Calabar**, and then proceeded to study Law at the University of Calabar from where I graduated in 2006.

I attended the **Nigerian Law School** in Lagos and was called to the **Nigerian Bar** in 2007. In 2011, I obtained a **Master's Degree in Law** (specializing in International Commercial and Maritime Law) from **Swansea University, Wales, United Kingdom**.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

In my nearly 15 years as a lawyer, I have worked in various capacities and in different organisations, building a career mainly as an intellectual property law, company secretarial, corporate governance and regulatory compliance expert.

I started out my career as a legal officer at the **Nigerian Maritime Administration & Safety Agency (NIMASA)** in 2007, and after my further studies and additional professional training, I joined the law firm of **Aluko & Oyebode** where I worked as an Associate and later Senior Associate between 2012 and February 2020. I then moved to become a **Partner in the law offices of The New Practice (TNP)** until

January 2021, when I joined in the formation of **NECS Advisory**, a boutique intellectual property and corporate advisory practice, at which I am a Founding Partner.

In each of these roles, I have either led, or worked with, a team of other lawyers and experts in delivering on key objectives of clients on complex commercial transactions and managing the portfolio of leading multinationals and domestic concerns such as **Apple, Microsoft, Coca-Cola, Moet Hennessy, Novartis Pharmaceuticals, Kimberly Clark, Reckitt Benckiser, Belle Rose, AIG, EbonyLife** and several individuals operating in, and out of, Nigeria.

SERVICE TO THE BAR

I have served the Nigerian Bar Association (**NBA**) in different capacities, contributing my quota towards its growth and advancement and enabling the NBA deliver on its mandate to its members and the society. In particular:

1. As an active member of the NBA Lagos Branch, I have served the Branch in various roles including as:
 - a) a member of the **2018 Law Week Planning Committee** and actively supported in the coordination of logistics for the Law Week; and
 - b) a member of the **Continuing Professional Development (CPD) Committee** from 2019 till date. In this capacity:
 - l) I have been coordinating the monthly **Knowledge Sharing Sessions** of the Branch from September 2020 to date;

- ii) I have been responsible for identifying topical issues that are relevant to members, choosing appropriate speakers and moderating the Knowledge Sharing Sessions;
- iii) I organized the first batch of **Chartered Instituted of Arbitration training for 100 delegates** who are members of NBA Lagos Branch. The process involved, liaising with the Institute, identifying a suitable venue for delegates in line with COVID regulations, sending out regular information to delegates, etc; and
- iv) I organized the second batch of **Chartered Instituted of Arbitration training for another set of 45 delegates** in May 2021.

2. At the NBA national level:

- a) I am currently a co-opted member of the **National Executive Committee serving from 2020 - 2021;**
- b) I was a member of the **2019 NBA AGC - Technical Committee on Conference Planning** where I was responsible for identifying eligible young lawyers who



OTHER VOLUNTEER SERVICES

were to be provided with speaking opportunities. I was also in charge of the Exhibition Center that hosted several exhibitors during the AGC;

- c) I served as the **CPD Course Coordinator** that supported the Institute of Continuing Legal Education (ICLE) in the coordination and management of the following capacity building and development programmes: (i) the Intellectual Property, Media and Technology Law Training (3rd & 4th of March 2021) at which I was also a resource person on Intellectual Property; (ii) the Tax Academy for Lawyers (25th and 26th of March 2021); and (iii) the 16 Days Introduction to Energy Law Sessions;
- d) I am currently the **Head of the Media and Publicity** of the forthcoming 2021 NBA-AGC Technical Committee on Conference Planning responsible for curating and managing all communication, publicity and media.

Besides my volunteer work at the NBA, I have been:

- a) a key member of the Nigeria Secretariat on Anti-Counterfeiting Collaboration;
- b) a Facilitator and Legal Director for the FISHBONE Documentary of the United States of America Consulate Intellectual Property Symposium;
- c) a Fellow of the Nigerian Leadership Initiative, a non-partisan organisation that advocates for sustainable development and transformational leadership; and
- d) a representative of Nigeria at the United States of America International Visitors Leadership Program (IVLP).

