

## **RESUME OF CHIMA UMEZURUIKE**

### **NAME:**

Chima Umezuruike

### **PROFESSIONAL ADDRESSES:**

#### **England:**

Clerksroom Chambers,  
Equity House, Blackbrook Park,  
Taunton TA1 2PX  
Tel: 01823 247 247  
Email: [chima.umezuruike@clerksroom.com](mailto:chima.umezuruike@clerksroom.com)  
Website: [www.clerksroom.com](http://www.clerksroom.com)

#### **Nigeria:**

The Chambers of I.N. Umezuruike, SAN  
6<sup>th</sup> Floor,  
27/29 King George .V. Road,  
Onikan, Lagos  
Nigeria  
Tel: 00 234 70 3189 9078  
Email: [chimaumez@msn.com](mailto:chimaumez@msn.com)  
Website: [www.umezchambers.com](http://www.umezchambers.com)

### **ACADEMIC QUALIFICATIONS:**

I obtained an LLB in law from the University of Nigeria in 1985.

I obtained an LLM from the University of London (London School of Economics) in 1992.

## **PROFESSIONAL BODIES**

I was called to the Nigerian Bar as a barrister and solicitor of the Supreme Court of Nigeria in October 1986.

I was called to the English Bar by the Honourable Society of the Inner Temple in July 1991.

In 2004 I was elected a practising associate of the Academy of Experts as an expert on Nigerian law and in 2009 I was elected a full member (Membership No: 2503).

## **EXPERIENCE:**

I regularly settle pleadings for use in the Nigerian courts. I appear regularly as an advocate in the High Court of Abia State of Nigeria, the High Court of Lagos State of Nigeria, the High Court of Rivers State of Nigeria, the Federal High Court in Nigeria and the Court of Appeal of Nigeria. I have also appeared in the Supreme Court of Nigeria.

From 2007 to 2008 I conducted a complicated trial for the determination of the validity of a customary law marriage in the High Court of Lagos State of Nigeria.

I regularly prepare expert's reports on Nigerian law (especially, on the validity of customary and statutory marriages, financial relief in matrimonial cases, custody of children, costs and length of litigation, enforcement of foreign judgments in Nigeria, succession, property law, criminal law, constitutional law and commercial law) for use in the County Courts, High Court and Court of Appeal of England and Wales.

In February and September 2010, I gave expert evidence on Nigerian criminal law and constitutional law in a fraud and money laundering trial involving a former Governor of a State in Nigeria (James Ibori) in Southwark Crown Court. In February 2012, I gave expert evidence on Nigeria constitutional law on behalf of the Crown at the trial of the said James Ibori at Southwark Crown Court. Of the conflicting views of the experts, mine was accepted by the Judge.

I have also appeared as an advocate in various County Courts, the High Court, the Court of Appeal and the House of Lords in England. [A list of my English report cases is attached to this resume.](#)

#### **PUBLICATIONS:**

“Reform of Legal Education and the Legal Profession in 21<sup>st</sup> Century Nigeria” (published in [www.thenigeriabusiness.com/column7.html](http://www.thenigeriabusiness.com/column7.html))

“Review of the Civil Procedure Rules in the Various High Courts in Nigeria and the Court of Appeal” (published in [www.thenigeriabusiness.com/column30.html](http://www.thenigeriabusiness.com/column30.html) and The Daily Independent, 9<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> September 2010)

“The Concept of Double-decker marriages in Nigeria” (published in [www.thenigeriabusiness.com/column7.html](http://www.thenigeriabusiness.com/column7.html)).

“The Validity of a ceremony of a Nigerian Customary Law Marriage Celebrated outside Nigeria or in Nigeria but Outside the Bride’s Place of Domicile” (published in [www.umezchambers.com](http://www.umezchambers.com))