

BRIEF ON HON. JUDGES, FCT CUSTOMARY COURT OF APPEAL.

HON. JUSTICE STANLEY ADEKUNLE LAWAL

Hon. Justice Stanley Adekunle Lawal was born on the 20th of October, 1959, and he is an indigene of Ondo State, South West, Nigeria. A graduate of the University of Ibadan, where he obtained a Bachelor of Laws Degree in 1985, was called to the Nigerian Bar in 1986.

Upon his call to the Nigerian Bar, he commenced his career in legal practice during his National Youth Service, which he undertook at the Law Office of Messrs H.O. Davies & Co. from 1986 to 1987. After that, worked as Solicitor and Advocate at Olagbegi Saraki & Co law firm between 1988 and 1994. In 1994, he founded the Law Firm of Kunle Lawal & Co, where he was the Principal Partner before he was appointed a Judge of the Federal Capital Territory Customary Court of Appeal, Abuja, on June 18th, 2009.

Hon. Justice Stanley Adekunle Lawal is a Fellow of the Institute of Chartered Mediators and Conciliators and the International Dispute Resolution Institute. He has attended several Conferences, Workshops, Training and Seminars on the development of law both within and outside Nigeria. He also authored a book on the Practice and Procedures of the Customary Court of Appeal.

Hon. Justice Stanley Adekunle Lawal is the next senior judge of the FCT Customary Court of Appeal, next to the Hon. President.

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HON. JUSTICE (DR.) NGOZIKA UWAZUNRUNONYE OKAISABOR

Born on the 13th day of May, 1967, Hon. Justice (Dr.) Ngozika U. Okaisbor, an indigene of Imo State, South East Nigeria, was called to the Nigerian Bar in 1989, having graduated from the Imo State University, Okigwe, in 1988. His lordship also holds a Master of Legal Institutions (MLI) from the University of Wisconsin (1989), a Master of Laws Degree from the John Marshal Law School, Chicago (2001) and a PhD from Trinity College, Delaware (2006).

Hon. Justice (Dr.) Ngozika Okaisabor had her mandatory National Service at the Federal Ministry of Justice, Lagos, between 1989 to 1990, after which she was retained as a State Counsel in the Federal Ministry of Justice and rose through the ranks as a Legal Adviser and posted to various Federal Ministries, Departments and Agencies including the Nigerian Customs Service, National Primary Health Care Development Agency, the Federal Ministry of Information amongst others, in that capacity. Between November, 2002 and December, 2003, his lordship was a Training Coordinator at the National Centre for State Court (USAID).

A fellow of the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators, Institute of Chartered Mediators and Conciliators and the International Dispute Resolution Institute, amongst other professional membership, his lordship has attended several workshops, seminars, training and Conferences and made Paper presentations at some.

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HON. JUSTICE ISTIFANUS GANDU

Hon. Justice Istifanus Gandu was born on 1st April, 1964, and he is an indigene of Kaduna State, North West, Nigeria. A graduate of Ahmadu Bello University, Zaria, where he obtained a Bachelor of Laws in 1990 and was called to the Nigerian Bar in 1991.

He gained work experience by working both in the public and private sectors. He commenced work during his NYSC as a legal officer in Borno State Housing Corporation from 1984 to 1985. He then worked in the private sector with Ahmed/Goche & Co. in Maiduguri, Borno state, from 1991 to 1993, Mike Oki Edegware & Co. Kaduna State as Head of Chambers from 1994 to 1996, Partner at Simon Yakubu Arabo & Co, Kaduna State from 1996 to 2000, and after that, he founded Istifanus Gandu & Co. (Yabiyok Chambers) Kaduna State, where he worked as a Principal Partner from 2000-2002.

He became an upper Customary Court Judge, Kaduna in 2002, where he was until he was appointed a Judge of the FCT Customary Court of Appeal in 2009.

He has attended several Workshops and Conferences on the development of Law both within and outside the Country.