



# THE VINDICATES' ATTORNEYS

(LEGAL PRACTITIONERS, CHARTERED ARBITRATORS, MEDIATORS, CORPORATE & PROPERTY CONSULTANTS)

19th June, 2024

To:

The Chairman,  
Electoral Committee,  
Nigerian Bar Association,  
NBA National Secretariat,  
Plot 1101 Cadastral Zone A00,  
Central Business District,  
Abuja, Nigeria.

Dear Learned Silk,

## **A CASE OF MISUSE OF NBA EMAIL PLATFORM FOR CAMPAIGNING AGAINST MR. CHARLES AJIBOYE**

My name is Ferdinand Afam Naza, a cleared candidate for the office of National Publicity Secretary of the Nigerian Bar Association. I write this petition against Mr. Charles Ajiboye, the current National Assistant Publicity Secretary of the NBA, for his unethical conduct and misuse of the NBA's official email platform to campaign for the office of National Publicity Secretary. This act has given him an undue advantage over other contestants and undermines the integrity of the electoral process.

### **Background**

Mr. Charles Ajiboye just as myself and another, Mrs. Bridget Edokwe were recently cleared to contest for the position of National Publicity Secretary of the NBA. While I respect his right to participate in the electoral process, I am compelled to raise concerns regarding his recent actions, which appear to contravene the principles of fair competition and equal opportunity for all candidates.

## **Allegations**

On 18th day of June, 2024, Mr. Ajiboye used the NBA's official email platform to disseminate campaign materials. This behavior represents a clear breach of ethical standards and electoral guidelines, providing him with an unfair advantage that is not available to other candidates.

## **Specific Instances of Misconduct**

1. **Misuse of NBA Resources:** The NBA email platform is a resource designated for official communication related to the professional activities and governance of the Association. Mr. Ajiboye's use of this platform for his campaign constitutes a misuse of these resources for personal gain.
2. **Unfair Competitive Advantage:** By utilizing his current position to access and use the NBA email platform, Mr. Ajiboye can reach a broad audience more effectively than other candidates, thereby gaining an unfair advantage in the election process.
3. **Violation of NBA Electoral Guidelines:** The use of official NBA communication channels for personal campaigning is likely in violation of the NBA's electoral guidelines, which are established to ensure a fair and impartial electoral process.

## **Impact:**

Mr. Ajiboye's actions compromise the integrity and fairness of the NBA's electoral process. Allowing such conduct to persist without consequences sets a dangerous precedent and suggests that incumbents can exploit their positions and access to institutional resources for personal electoral gain.

## **Request for Action**

In view of the aforementioned issues, i respectfully request the following actions from the Electoral Committee:

1. **Immediate Investigation:** Conduct a thorough investigation into Mr. Ajiboye's use of the NBA email platform for campaign purposes.
2. **Disciplinary Measures:** Impose appropriate disciplinary measures against Mr. Ajiboye if he is found guilty of the alleged misconduct. These measures may include disqualification from the current electoral race and other sanctions deemed appropriate by the committee.
3. **Equal Access Guidelines:** Establish and publicize clear guidelines ensuring all candidates have equal access to NBA communication platforms, if their use is permitted, under fair and transparent conditions.

Conclusion:

I believe in maintaining the integrity and fairness of the NBA's electoral process. Mr. Charles Ajiboye's actions, if left unaddressed, could severely damage the credibility of the Association and its electoral procedures. I trust the Electoral Committee will treat this petition with the seriousness it deserves and take the necessary actions to uphold the principles of fairness, integrity, and professionalism within the NBA.

I appreciate your prompt attention to this urgent matter.

Yours faithfully,

Mr. Ferdinand A. Naza, MCArb  
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