

AMARACHI ELENDU

Vancouver, BC

ARTICLING CANDIDATE

Recent Master of Laws (Common Law) graduate from the University of British Columbia and NCA qualified articling student candidate. Internationally trained lawyer with 9 years of legal experience in Nigeria across civil, family, criminal, real estate/conveyancing, and corporate/commercial law, possessing strong legal research and drafting skills.

EDUCATION AND LICENSING

Master of Laws (Common Law) , UBC, Vancouver, BC	May 2025
Barrister and Solicitor of the Supreme Court of Nigeria	Nov 2013
Bachelor of Laws (BL) , Nigerian Law School	Aug 2013
<ul style="list-style-type: none">One-year mandatory bar admission course.	
Bachelor of Laws (LLB) , Madonna University Okija, Nigeria	Aug 2011

WORK EXPERIENCE

Ballot Officer , Elections BC, Vancouver, BC	Oct 2024
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Assisted voters at polling stations by providing clear procedural guidance and answering questions to ensure a positive voting experience.Conducted identity verification and eligibility checks in accordance with voting guidelines.Worked collaboratively with election officials and staff to ensure efficient operations and compliance throughout voting activities.	

Magistrate , Abia State Judiciary, Abia State, (Nigeria)	Nov 2020 -Apr 2024
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Lower court of record with jurisdiction over civil, criminal, and coroner's matters.

- Managed civil and criminal trials in the Magistrate Court by evaluating evidence and applying statutory and case law to determine outcomes.
- Researched and drafted 200+ civil decisions, including contract disputes, landlord-tenant matters, and trespass, following the review of pleadings, documents, and written submissions.
- Engaged directly with litigants, witnesses, and counsel through active listening, explaining court processes, assessing credibility, and addressing procedural questions.
- Evaluated evidence and legal arguments for 50+ criminal offenses such as stealing, burglary, obtaining by false pretenses, and remand proceedings, ensuring procedural compliance.
- Managed multiple active files simultaneously, coordinating with counsel, court staff, and litigants to meet statutory deadlines and maintain procedural compliance.
- Notarized deeds, powers of attorney, and other legal documents to certify legality and authenticity.

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Senior State Counsel, Ministry of Justice, Abia State (Nigeria)

May 2018 - Nov 2020

Office of the Attorney General of Abia State, mandated to advise the State Government on all legal matters and represent it in civil, criminal, and appellate proceedings.

- Instituted and prosecuted civil and criminal cases at the Magistrate Court, High Court, and Court of Appeal on behalf of the state Attorney General.
- Conducted interviews with government agencies, investigating police officers, witnesses, complainants to identify legal issues, assess evidence and advise on appropriate litigation strategy.
- Drafted and reviewed legal documents, including pleadings such as statements of claim or statements of defense and accompanying documents, motions, charge sheets, information, and written addresses
- Reviewed and managed case files from initiation to resolution, including witness depositions, client interviews, and developing strategies for effective prosecution.
- Negotiated with defense counsel and opposing parties on settlements, charges, and plea bargains.

Associate, Uche S. Awa (SAN) & Co, Aba, (Nigeria)

Sep 2015 - May 2018

Full-service litigation and commercial law firm advising individual and corporate clients.

- Represented individual and corporate clients in civil and criminal litigation at all levels of the Nigerian court system.
- Conducted client-intake interviews and advised clients on litigation strategy, procedural requirements, and potential outcomes.
- Drafted and adopted various court processes including writs of summons, statements of claims, statements of defense, witness statements on oath, and motions.
- Advised clients on business structuring and regulatory compliance, including company registrations, post-incorporation filings, and corporate record maintenance.
- Negotiated, drafted, and reviewed 30+ contractual agreements, including deeds of assignment, joint venture agreements, partnership agreements, share purchase agreements, and powers of attorney.
- Collaborated with partner and senior counsel on client advising, negotiations, and court proceedings, contributing to efficient file management and client service delivery.

PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS

Member – Magistrate Association of Nigeria

2020 to present

Member – Nigerian Bar Association

2013 to present