

REUBEN CHINWEOLU OKAFOR

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EDUCATION

- Master's Degree:** **University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign**
LLM, Intellectual Property & Information Technology Law, Dec. 2021
GPA: Spring 2021 (3.59)
- Research Assistant to Professor Faye Jones on Privacy and Data Protection
 - Successfully submitted Open Records Request to the Public Utility Commission of Texas following the February 2021 winter storm.
 - Drafted a Privacy Policy
 - Ranked among the top LLM students in class of 2021
- Professional Degree:** **Nigerian Law School**
Bar Qualifying Certificate (BL. Hons), Magna Cum Laude, Nov. 2016
- Bachelor's Degree:** **Enugu State University (ESUT), Nigeria**
Bachelor of Laws (LL. B Hons), Magna Cum Laude, Dec. 2015
- Law Students' Chambers' President
 - Christian Law Students' Fellowship Prayer Director
 - Christian Students' Chapel President
 - Wrote a thesis on "The Executive Immunity under the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999 (as amended, 2010)"
 - Member, Law Students' Human Rights Association
 - Member, Law Students' Legal Clinic

WORK EXPERIENCE

University of Illinois Law Library, Urbana-Champaign, USA

Research Assistant, February 2021 – present

- Graduate Research Assistant to Professor Jones Faye, Clinical Professor, and Director of the Albert E. Jenner Jr. Memorial Law Library, University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign, U.S.A.
- Current Research Project: Freedom of Information Laws and Transparency: Piercing the Veil of Private Corporations via the Freedom of Information Act

Koya & Kuti Solicitors, Lagos, Nigeria

Associate Attorney, April 2019 – December 2020

- Key member, Corporate & Commercial, Property/Probate Practice, and Company Secretarial Departments.
- Provided corporate advisory and regulatory compliance services.
- Drafted and reviewed complex transactional Agreements and was keenly involved in Commercial Litigations.
- Involved in a 2Billion Naira Real Estate Development Project by GlobalMix Capital Limited – a top-tier Real Estate Development Company in Lagos, Nigeria.
- Resolved 131 Million Naira dispute for Sonhart Investment Limited – a major producer of household materials in Nigeria.

- Negotiated and drafted 380 Million Naira Asset Acquisition deal involving Sonhart Investment Limited and A & Y Industries Limited.
- Negotiated a multi-million Naira Mergers & Acquisitions involving Polaris Bank Plc.
- Provided legal advisory to TLS Logistics – a top logistics company in Africa.
- Company Secretary to GlobalMix Capital Ltd, Alcove Global Ventures Ltd, Croix International Ltd, Mountain-Ice Travel and Tours Ltd, York City Nigeria Ltd, etc.
- Represented MediaReach Ltd in a highly contested legal dispute involving Etisalat Nigeria.
- Represented Polaris Bank Plc in a highly contested legal dispute over a 30 Million Naira Corporate Finance transaction.

Udochi Iheanacho Partnership, Lagos Nigeria

Associate Attorney, February 2018 – April 2019

- Led the Information Technology, Intellectual Property and Corporate Law Departments at the firm.
- Provided Corporate advisory, Company Incorporation, Real Estate transactions, IP rights protections, and other transactional services.
- Prepared Technology transfer and Franchise contracts involving ConSol Limited, a top-tier technology company in Lagos, Nigeria.
- Reviewed contracts on Health Management Services involving MSH International, a multinational health and risk insurance company with offices in the Europe, the Americas, China etc.
- Prepared Health Management Services contract between Nigerian National Petroleum Corporation and Critical Rescue International.
- Advised on Cryptocurrencies, Blockchain Technology, Anti-Money Laundering frameworks, Cybersecurity, Data Protection and Privacy Policy and Initial Coin Offering (ICO).

Legal Aid Council of Nigeria, Jalingo, Taraba State, Nigeria

Corps Attorney, January 2017 - December 2017

- Litigation officer, providing free Fundamental Rights defence for indigent Nigerians in Jalingo, Taraba State, Nigeria.
- Procured the release of indigent Nigerians from illegal incarceration to reunite them with their families.
- Attended Prison Visits and advocated for the release of people whose fundamental rights were violated via unlawful incarceration.
- Provided legal advice to fundamental rights abuse victims.
- Drafted Court Processes and attended Courts.

Frank Eke & Co (Barristers and Solicitors), Lagos, Nigeria

Legal Intern, May 2016 – July 2016

- Rated first in punctuality and dedication to work (97%)
- Conducted legal research on fundamental rights, landlord – tenant relationship, and Nigeria's Employment Trust Fund and the Rights thereof.
- Drafted Lease Agreements.
- Participated in drafting and filing of court processes and attended court proceedings as a Law School Intern.

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

Nigerian Bar Association

Member, November 2016 – Present.

International Association of Privacy Professionals

Member, June 2021 – Present.

American Bar Associate (Young Lawyers Forum)

Member, September 2021 – present.

PROFESSIONAL TRAININGS

The State of New York University: International Cyber Conflicts, 2021 (**Certificate of Completion**).

SMB Cybersecurity Series: Getting Started – CIS Controls to SMB Governance. Thursday June 24, 2021.

TrustArc Privacy Insight Series: The intersection of Healthcare Data & Privacy: How to Navigate the New Challenges. Wednesday, June 16, 2021.

SMB Cybersecurity Series: Ransomware and NIST Compliance for SMBs. Tuesday June 15, 2021.

Rethinking Data Monetization | An Online MKAI Inclusive AI Forum. Thursday, May 27, 2021.

The School of Information Science, University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign, and the European Union Event Center – Privacy Engineering Development. May 3rd, 2021.

The School of Information Science, University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign, and the European Union Event Center – Promoting Public-Private Partnerships in the Pursuit of Cybersecurity: Are You Safe? Thursday, April 27, 2021.

The School of Information Science, University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign, and the European Union Event Center – The Myth of the Privacy Paradox. Tuesday, March 2nd, 2021

PUBLICATIONS

Forthcoming

R. Okafor, J. Faye. (2021). *“Freedom of Information Laws and Transparency: Piercing the Veil of Private Corporations via the Freedom of Information Act.”*

Published

On [SSRN](#)

R. Okafor, (2021). *Cybersecurity Due Diligence in Mergers and Acquisitions Transactions*, Legal Scholarship Network, [SSRN](#).

Others

R. Okafor (2015). *Executive Immunity Under the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999*. (Submitted in Partial Fulfillment of the requirement for an LL. B Degree, 2015), Enugu State University, Nigeria.

R. Okafor (2020). *Covid-19 and Cybersecurity – Safety Tips for Companies*, available at <https://thenigerialawyer.com/covid-19-and-cybersecurity-safety-tips-for-companies>.

R. Okafor (2019). *Cybersecurity Due Diligence in mergers and acquisitions transactions*. Available at <https://thenigerialawyer.com/cybersecurity-due-diligence-in-mergers-acquisitions-transactions>.

R. Okafor (2018). *Addressing the Jurisdictional Issues Over Cyberspace Transactions*. Available at <https://thenigerialawyer.com/addressing-the-jurisdictional-issues-over-cyberspace-transactions>.

Unpublished

R. Okafor, U. Iheanacho (2018) “*Securitization of Intellectual Property Rights.*”

WILBERFORCE TWINAMATSIKO

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EDUCATION

University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff (UAPB); Pine Bluff, AR Expected Dec 2021

Master of Science, Agricultural Regulations

Kyambogo University; Kampala-Uganda January 2015

Bachelor of Science Technology in Biology

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

August 2019-Present

Graduate Research Assistant at Department of Agriculture, University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff

- Operation of the elemental analyzer
- Soil sampling and sample preparation
- Documentation and article reviewing
- Maintaining of research crop in the high tunnel
- Analysis of soil samples for various parameters in the lab.

June 2016-July 2019

Data Officer at Marie Stopes International Uganda, Kampala-Uganda

Duties

Field data collection, carrying out support supervision for both private and public health facilities enrolled on the project as well as coordinating and monitoring a smooth flow of project training activities. Responsible for sorting, proofing, storing, updating inputting data into the information management system, data completeness and accuracy.

Key responsibilities for the UNFPA-Family Planning Project

- Data collection from health facilities, both private and public
- Carrying out monthly support supervision activities for family planning service providers on the network
- Holding demand generation activities for facilities enrolled on our network.
- Distribution of Information Education and Communication (IEC) material to the youths.
- Training family planning service providers on documentation in the health management information system (HMIS tool), MarieTXT (a tool for capturing Family planning methods taken up by women).

Key responsibilities for the URHVP (Uganda Reproductive Health Voucher Project)-World Bank Project

- Participate in the pre-processing of data to ensure completeness and consistency of information and make corrections as necessary including giving feedback and support to the health service providers on the anomalies observed.
- Document and report common data collection errors (incompleteness and inconsistencies) to the data management lead.
- Timely input of data into the information management system as per the programmed instructions including reviewing of data for completeness and accuracy.
- Carry out weekly clean-up of recorded data to reconcile any data inconsistencies in the system
- Monitor the system for malfunctions, report malfunctions to the data management lead

October 2014- June 2016

Quality Control Analyst at Abacus Parenteral Drugs Limited, Kampala-Uganda

- Performed daily and bi-monthly calibration and operation of Spectrophotometer, Polarimeter, pH meter and other equipment in the lab
- Prepared and standardized analytical reagents
- Carried out in-process quality control and online visual inspection of parenteral drugs
- Reviewed Standard Operating Procedures (SOP)
- Performed quality standard checks on final products before dispatch and reviewed Batch Manufacturing Records (BMR)

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

February 2016-April 2016

National Agriculture Research Lab

Kawanda, Uganda

Research Assistant

- Performed stock solution, media preparation and autoclaving for banana research
- Conducted routine sub-culturing of banana tissue plantlets
- Performed sterilized transfers of banana tissue plantlets on growth media
- Collected and recorded data of tissue growth
- Weaned tissue culture plantlets and transgenic plantlets

LEADERSHIP SKILLS

Graduate Events Coordinator: International Students Association, Pine Bluff, AR (November 2019-Present)

Health secretary: Health Committee- Kyambogo University-North Hall, Kampala, (2013)

Publicity Secretary: Biotech and Research Club-Kyambogo University, Kampala, Uganda (2012)

SKILLS

Computer skills (Microsoft office)

Good communication skills

Interpersonal skills

Personal development Courses

1. Cattle men program 2021- Virginia Tech University
2. Innovation Scholar- University of Arkansas Innovation Scholars Program 2021
3. Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Points Certification-360 Training