

# NBA-YLF GUIDE

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## Welcome Message From The NBA-YLF Governing Council

Dear Colleague,

It is with immense joy and pride that we welcome you to the Nigerian Bar Association Young Lawyers Forum (NBA-YLF)—a dynamic community, a family, and a platform built specifically to support, uplift, and empower young lawyers across Nigeria.

The YLF exists to ensure that every young lawyer, no matter their location, background, or practice area, is equipped with the tools, knowledge, opportunities, and support they need to thrive in the legal profession.

Here, you are not alone. You are part of a family bound by shared values—of integrity, excellence, innovation, and service. We understand the realities and challenges that come with the early years of practice. That is why the YLF exists—to bridge those gaps, amplify your voice, and stand with you as you take each step forward.

Whether it is through mentorship, professional development programs, access to justice initiatives, mental wellness support, or industry-focused learning experiences, the YLF is here for you. Across all the branches of the NBA, we are building a new kind of legal culture—one defined by unity, courage, and transformation.

We are especially excited to have you join us at a time when young lawyers across Nigeria are reshaping narratives, breaking barriers, and driving bold innovations. You are not just entering a profession—you are stepping into purpose. Your journey is our journey, and your growth is our mission.

So, as you read through this guide, we invite you to explore all that the YLF has to offer. Lean in, stay curious, get involved—and know that you are part of something far greater than yourself.

Welcome to the fold.
Welcome to the future.
Welcome to the Nigerian Bar Association Young Lawyers Forum.

**Timothy Clement** Chairman

**Etaba Agbor** Secretary



# Welcome Message From The NBA-YLF Committee On Policies Programs And Project

Dear New Wig,

Congratulations and welcome to the Largest Bar in Africa!

It's a moment you've worked incredibly hard for, and we at the Nigerian Bar Association Young Lawyers Forum (NBA-YLF) are truly excited to walk this next phase with you. This NBA-YLF Guide was put together with you in mind. It's not just a handbook, it's a companion. One that helps you find your footing, understand the structure of the NBA, and make the most of the many opportunities available to you as a young lawyer in Nigeria.

In these pages, you'll find helpful details on:

- i. How the NBA is structured.
- ii. The various Sections, Fora, Committees, and Commissions you can plua into.
- iii. Practical things like membership dues, the Stamp & Seal process, health insurance, and more.
- iv. And of course, a proper introduction to the NBA-YLF—who we are, what we do, and how you can get involved.

We know that starting out in the legal profession can feel overwhelming. That's why the NBA-YLF exists: to give young lawyers a voice, a platform, and a community. Whether you see yourself in litigation, corporate law, government, academia, or something entirely different, there's a space for you here.

This guide is your starting point. But more than that, it's an invitation: to ask questions, to get involved, and to start building a career you're proud of. We believe in the power and promise of young lawyers, and we're here to support you every step of the way.

Once again, welcome to the profession. We're glad you're here!

**Umoh Edet** Chairman **Charles Ajagba** Secretary



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**SECTION ONE** 

# THE NIGERIAN BAR ASSOCIATION

#### 1.1 Brief History

The Nigerian Bar Association (NBA) is the premier professional body for lawyers in Nigeria, with roots dating back to 1911 through the Nigerian Law Society (NLS). Initially composed of a few England-trained lawyers, early members like Christopher Sapara Williams championed indigenous rights. The NLS evolved into the NBA in 1962, coinciding with Nigeria's growing nationalist movement.

Following independence in 1960, the NBA emerged as a reformer and, during military rule, a key defender of democracy and human rights—especially under General Abacha. Since 1999, it has been a strong voice for constitutionalism, judicial reform, and good governance.

Now one of Africa's largest professional associations with over 130 branches and still growing across the country, the NBA promotes the rule of law, defends the marginalized, and influences legal and political discourse nationwide.





#### 1.2 Profile

The NBA is a non-profit, non-governmental, and non-political umbrella body for all lawyers called to the Nigerian Bar. It advocates for the rule of law, human rights, and judicial independence, while promoting legal education, professional development, and justice reforms.

#### 1.3 Motto

"Promoting the Rule of Law"

#### 1.4 Vision

To be Africa's leading Bar Association in defending the rule of law, human

#### 1.5 Objectives

As per it's 2015 (as amended) Constitution, the NBA's core aims include:

- 1 Upholding the integrity of the Bar and Judiciary
- Promoting legal education and development
- 3 Advocating for rights and the rule of law
- 4 Encouraging member interaction





- 5 Supporting national development
- 6 Providing legal aid and promoting public interest law
- 7 Fostering relationships with local and international legal bodies

#### 1.6 Goals

- i. Promote democracy, good governance, and justice
- ii. Build a strong, unified, and globally respected profession
- iii. Ensure member discipline and education
- iv. Enable access to justice for all
- v. Monitor government accountability
- vi. Safeguard members' welfare

#### 1.7 Structure

The NBA operates at three levels: national, zonal, and branch.

**National:** Headed by the President and other elected officers, it sets strategic direction.

**Zonal:** Three forums, Eastern, Western, and Northern, coordinate regional efforts.

**Branch:** 130+ local branches address grassroots legal and professional issues.





#### 1.8 Regions

Eastern Zone: Abia, Akwa Ibom, Anambra, Bayelsa, Cross River, Ebonyi,

Enugu, Imo, Rivers

Western Zone: Delta, Edo, Ekiti, Lagos, Ogun, Ondo, Osun, Oyo

Northern Zone: 19 northern states + FCT

Zonal forums link branches with national leadership and coordinate regional programs.

#### 1.9 Statutory Events

**Annual General Conference (AGC):** Africa's largest legal gathering featuring seminars, workshops, training and professional development.

**Annual General Meeting (AGM):** Held during the AGC to receive reports and guide NBA strategy.

**NEC Meetings:** Quarterly policy sessions involving key stakeholders. Section Conferences/Retreats: Hosted by specialized sections like SLP, SBL, and SPIDEL to deepen sectoral expertise.

#### 1.10 Elections

NBA holds biennial national elections to select officers, including the President and General Secretary, reflecting its commitment to democratic leadership.





#### 1.11 NEC 2024-2026

The NBA's National Executive Council (NEC) is the top decision-making body after the AGM. It includes National Officers, Branch Leaders, Past Presidents, and Co-opted Members.

At its Nov 7, 2024 meeting in Enugu, the NEC co-opted 150 members for the 2024-2026 term under Section 8(1)(e) of the NBA Constitution.

#### National Officers (2024-2026):

- President: Mazi Afam Josiah Osigwe, SAN
- 1st VP: Sebastine Anyia
- 2nd VP: Mrs. Bolatumi Olasunbo Animashaun
- 3rd VP: Mrs. Zainab Aminu Garba
- Gen. Secretary: Dr. Mobolaji Idris Ojibara
- Asst. Gen. Secretary: Mr. Henry Barnabas Ehi
- Treasurer: Mrs. Blessing Imo Udofa-Poromon
- Welfare Sec.: Mr. Nyada Auta
- Publicity Sec.: Mrs. Bridget Ijeoma Edokwe
- Asst. Publicity Sec.: Miss Ebiere Emmanuella Ekpese

Elected on July 20-21, 2024 and inaugurated on August 29, 2024.

Co-opted NEC Members: 150 members from diverse legal backgrounds enhance inclusivity and decision-making. Full list available in the official NBA document.







# NBA SECTIONS AND FORA

The Nigerian Bar Association (NBA) operates through various specialized sections and fora aimed at fostering professional excellence, specialization, and advocacy within the legal profession. These bodies serve as platforms for knowledge-sharing, networking, and policy development across different areas of law. This section highlights five key components: the Section on Business Law (SBL), Section on Legal Practice (SLP), Section on Public Interest and Development Law (SPIDEL), the NBA Women Forum (NBAWF), and the Lawyers with Disabilities Forum (NBALWD). Each of these plays a unique role in advancing the interests of Nigerian lawyers, particularly young and aspiring practitioners.





### 2.1 NBA Section on Business Law (NBA-SBL)



Established in 2004, the NBA Section on Business Law (NBA-SBL) is dedicated to advancing commercial law practice in Nigeria. With a membership base of over 6,000 legal professionals, the section plays a pivotal role in shaping business law standards across the country.

Structured around 26 specialized committees—including key sectors such as Banking & Finance, Energy, Intellectual Property, and Technology—the NBA-SBL functions as a policy think tank. These committees contribute to legislative reform, provide expert training, and disseminate sector-specific insights.

The SBL hosts a variety of professional development events, most notably its flagship Annual International Business Law Conference. It also publishes newsletters, conducts webinars, and offers continuing legal education through workshops and masterclasses.

Membership is open to all Nigerian lawyers and can be completed online. With offices in both Lagos and Abuja, the NBA-SBL ensures nationwide accessibility to its programs and services.

To know more about this Fora, please visit this site - https://nbasbl.org/.

### 2.2 NBA Section on Legal Practice (NBA-SLP)



Established in 2003, the NBA Section on Legal Practice (NBA-SLP) is committed to promoting specialized legal practice and continuous professional development. Its core mission is to equip lawyers with the tools and knowledge needed to excel in a dynamic and evolving legal landscape. The section also emphasizes ethical standards, encourages knowledge sharing, and supports enhanced service delivery across the profession.

The SLP operates through several dedicated committees covering key practice areas such as Litigation, Constitutional Law, Technology & Law, Family Law, and Young Litigators. These committees drive the section's training initiatives and policy engagement.





A flagship activity of the SLP is its Annual Legal Practice Conference, which brings together legal professionals to discuss emerging trends and best practices. In addition, the section produces legal publications, conducts workshops, and provides opportunities for members to engage with multiple committees to deepen their expertise.

Membership is open to all members of the Nigerian Bar Association, with flexible structures that allow for both free and premium committee participation.

To know more about this Fora, please visit this link - <a href="https://nbaslp.org/">https://nbaslp.org/</a>

### 2.3 NBA Section on Public Interest and Development Law (NBA-SPIDEL)



The NBA Section on Public Interest and Development Law (SPIDEL) is the Nigerian Bar Association's dedicated platform for advancing public interest litigation, social justice, and sustainable development. It serves as a vibrant hub for lawyers committed to using the law as a tool for transformative social change.

SPIDEL actively engages in advocacy, strategic litigation, and human rights work, with a strong focus on promoting good governance, environmental sustainability, and access to justice. Its efforts have included legal action against unlawful government practices and timely interventions through public statements on pressing national issues.

As a dynamic engine for development-oriented legal advocacy, SPIDEL continues to play a vital role in shaping policy, defending civil liberties, and championing the public good.

To know more about this For a, please visit this link - <a href="https://www.nigerianbar.org">https://www.nigerianbar.org</a>. ng/section-public-interest-and-development-law-spidel

#### 2.4 NBA Women Forum (NBAWF)



The NBA Women Forum (NBAWF) is committed to advancing the status and participation of women in the legal profession. It serves as a dynamic platform for mentorship, advocacy, leadership development, and the promotion of gender equity. Established to address the specific challenges faced by women lawyers, the Forum seeks to empower them for active and meaningful engagement in both legal and public life.





The NBAWF implements a wide range of initiatives, including national conferences, mentorship programs, and capacity-building workshops. Key focus areas include advocacy campaigns, leadership training, and strategic partnerships with local and international organizations. To ensure grassroots impact, the Forum operates through a network of State Leads who help implement its vision across Nigeria.

To know more about this Fora, please visit this link - <a href="https://www.nbawomenforum.">https://www.nbawomenforum.</a> org.ng/

### 2.6 NBA Lawyers with Disabilities Forum (NBA-LWDF)

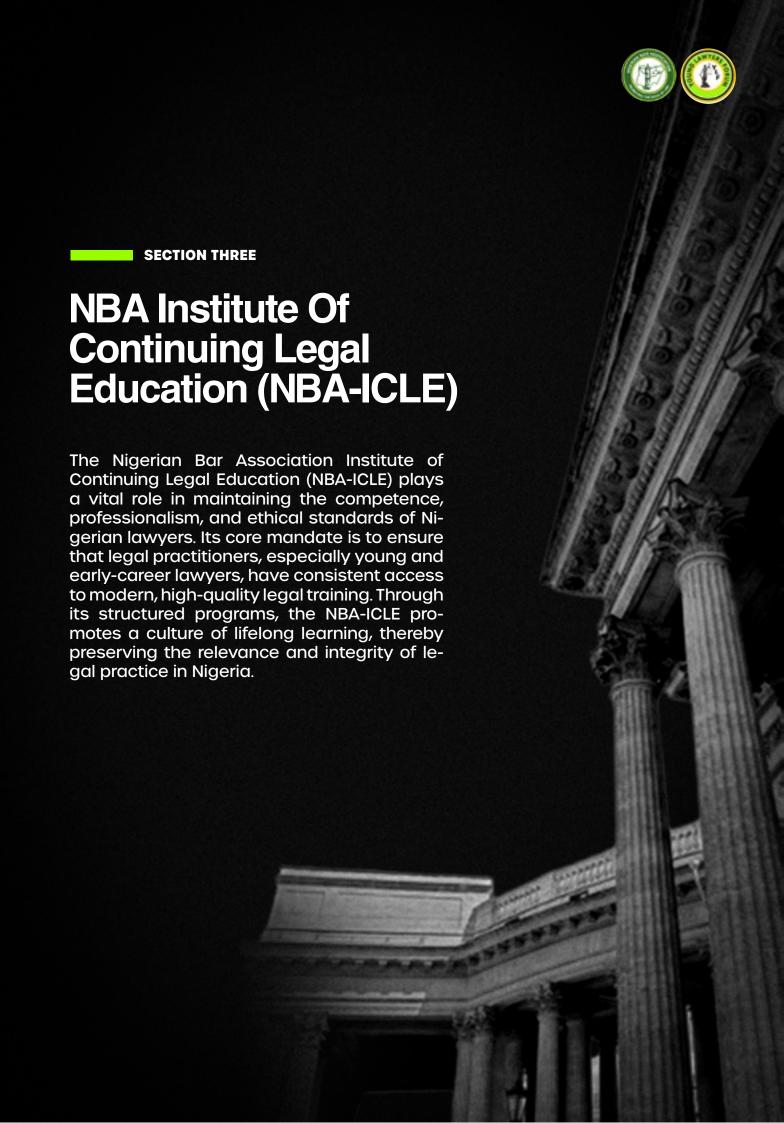


The NBA Lawyers with Disabilities Forum (NBA-LWDF), often associated with the Association of Lawyers with Disabilities in Nigeria (ALDIN), is committed to advancing the rights, inclusion, and empowerment of lawyers living with disabilities. While not formally recognized as a section of the NBA, the Forum operates as a dynamic and effective platform championing diversity and equal participation within the legal profession.

Key initiatives include the Northern Stakeholders' Summit held in February 2025, which tackled critical issues such as physical accessibility in legal institutions, the provision of sign language interpretation in courts, and infrastructural inclusion. The Forum has also been at the forefront of advocating for the domestication and effective implementation of the Disability Rights Act across various states.

Through strategic collaboration with civil society organizations and security agencies, NBA-LWDF continues to push for meaningful reforms and systemic change across the justice sector.

The NBA's various sections and fora provide valuable platforms for specialization, advocacy, and professional development. Whether it is through business law, litigation, public interest, gender equity, or inclusion, these bodies enable lawyers to contribute meaningfully to legal practice and national development. Young lawyers are especially encouraged to participate actively to enhance their careers and broaden their impact within the legal profession.







#### 3.1 Mandate and Focus Areas

The NBA-ICLE's mandate revolves around delivering Continuing Legal Education (CLE) and Continuing Professional Development (CPD). These initiatives help lawyers stay abreast of developments in Nigerian and international law, as well as emerging legal technologies and global practice trends. Young lawyers benefit particularly from tailored CPD programs that address the practical realities of early legal practice, build core competencies, and support career advancement.

#### 3.2 Key Activities and Programmes

To achieve its goals, the NBA-ICLE offers a broad range of activities, including:

- 1 Annual conferences and seminars
- 2 Practical workshops and training sessions
- 3 CPD accreditation and compliance
- 4 Webinars and virtual learning modules
- 5 Legal technology and innovation masterclasses
- 6 Collaborative trainings with international institutions

#### 3.3 Benefits of Engagement

Engaging with the NBA-ICLE brings numerous career advantages, particularly for young lawyers. These include access to expert-led training, valuable networking opportunities, practical skill development, accredited CPD hours, up-to-date legal resources, and professional recognition within and outside the legal community.



#### Learning Pathways for Young Lawyers

The NBA-ICLE provides diverse and flexible learning pathways:

- a. Mandatory CPD Accreditation: Lawyers must obtain at least 5 CPD credit hours annually through NBA-ICLE-approved programmes.
- b. Specialized Training Modules: Courses are available in fields such as Commercial Law, Intellectual Property, Tech & Data Protection, Arbitration, and Energy Law.
- c. Digital Learning (e-MCPD): An online platform enables lawyers to access courses and materials at their convenience.
- d. Interactive Workshops and Seminars: These offer hands-on, practical training and foster direct interaction with expert facilitators.
- e. National Conferences and Summits: NBA-backed events expose lawyers to legal developments and broader professional networks.
- f. Mentorship and Informal Guidance: While not formally structured, ICLE programmes foster informal mentoring, enhanced by collaboration with the NBA Mentorship Committee.
- g. Institutional Partnerships: Through partnerships with organizations like ALX, ILFA, and NCMDB, young lawyers access world-class legal innovation and global-standard training.

#### 3.4 Relevance to Young Lawyers

The NBA-ICLE is particularly impactful for young lawyers. It boosts early-career confidence, encourages ethical and technologically responsive practice, and fosters collaboration and community within the profession. Through its dynamic learning environment, the Institute equips young practitioners to thrive in a rapidly evolving legal landscape.

To visit this Fora, please visit this link - https://www.nigerianbar.org.ng/icle.







## NBA MEMBERSHIP AND BENEFITS

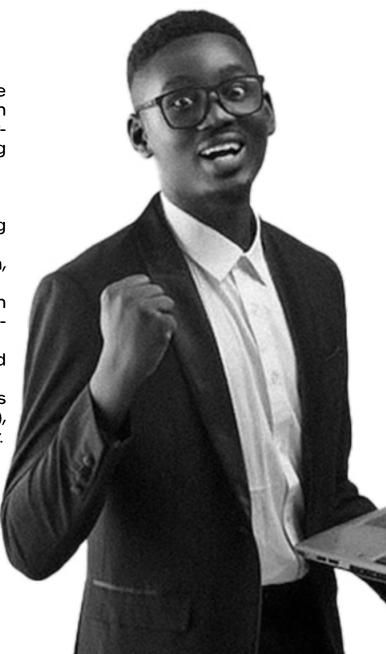
This section outlines the practical advantages and rights that come with active membership in the Nigerian Bar Association (NBA), both at national and branch levels.

### 4.1 Becoming an Active Member at the Branch Level

Every lawyer in Nigeria must affiliate with an NBA branch, typically based on where they practice. Active branch participation is the gateway to accessing the full benefits of membership.

To engage actively:

- Register with a Branch by completing a form and paying branch dues.
- Attend Meetings to network, learn, and stay updated.
- Join Committees such as Human Rights, CLE, or the Young Lawyers Forum.
- Volunteer for events like legal aid and seminars.
- Stay Financial by paying branch dues and the Bar Practicing Fee (BPF), which qualifies you as a full member.





#### 4.2 Membership Benefits and Opportunities

NBA membership supports lawyers throughout their careers. Key benefits include:

- a. Professional Identity: Belonging to a respected body that champions lawyers' rights and the rule of law.
- Career Development: Access to NBA-ICLE programs, subsidized training, webinars, certifications, mentorship, and job placement support.
- c. Networking: Opportunities at conferences, law weeks, and social events to connect with peers, seniors, and judges.
- d. Recognition: Eligibility for awards and visibility through active service.
- e. Conferences and Retreats: Discounted access to the Annual General Conference (AGC) and branch retreats.
- f. Perks and Discounts: Through partnerships with service providers, members enjoy special rates on products and services, as well as access to the NBA e-library.

#### 4.3 Insurance and Welfare Schemes

The NBA provides welfare support to members, particularly in times of need:

- Group Life and Health Insurance: Automatically available to financial members, covering death and sometimes health emergencies.
- Welfare Grants: Assistance for medical emergencies, bereavement, and distressed or retired members.
- Young Lawyers Initiatives: Subsidized BPF, IT/laptop support, internships, and entrepreneurship support.

To access these benefits, lawyers must be financially up-to-date and retain official payment records.



#### 4.4 Electoral Rights - Voting and Eligibility

NBA members enjoy the right to vote and contest elections at branch and national levels.

- Voting: You must be financially compliant and properly registered with the NBA database to vote. Voting takes place at your branch and during national NBA elections (conducted electronically).
- Contesting for Office: Young lawyers can run for positions in YLF or committees. National offices require years of experience and a record of active participation.

Your vote and involvement are critical tools to shape leadership and policy in the legal profession.

#### 4.5 Embrace Your Membership

NBA membership offers more than just compliance—it's a platform for professional growth, community, and leadership. By staying active and financially compliant, young lawyers can build a strong foundation for a meaningful legal career.

"The NBA is only as strong as its members. Step in. Speak out. Serve. And soar."





**SECTION FIVE** 

# LAWYERING & PROFESSIONAL PRACTICE

Embarking on your legal career in Nigeria requires more than just academic knowledge; it necessitates a full understanding of the tools, systems, and ethical standards that govern the profession. This section provides essential information to help you steer the practical aspects of legal practice, ensuring compliance and professionalism from the outset.

#### 5.1 NBA Stamp & Seal System

Pursuant to the Rules of Professional Conduct for Legal Practitioners 2023, the NBA Stamp and Seal system is a mandatory requirement for all practising lawyers in Nigeria. It serves as a verification tool, authenticating legal documents and curbing the activities of impostors.

#### **Application Process:**

- 1. Ensure payment of your Annual Bar Practising Fee (BPF) and Branch Dues.
- 2. Visit the NBA portal at https://portal.nigerianbar.org.ng and log in with your credentials.
- 3. Navigate to the Stamp & Seal application section.
- 4. Upload necessary documents, including proof of payments such as evidence of payment of your branch dues and a passport photograph.
- 5. Submit your application and await confirmation. For further assistance, please visit the NBA portal or contact the NBA helpdesk at barservices@nigerianbar.org.ng.





#### 5.2 Paying Branch Dues

Branch Dues are annual payments that affirm your active membership within your local NBA branch. These dues fund branch activities, including Continuing Legal Education (CLE) programs, welfare initiatives, and administrative operations.

Payment Process for selected branches:

Lagos Branch: Use the portal at https://portal.nbalagos.ng.

**Abuja Branch (Unity Bar):** Access the payment portal via https://portal.nbaunitybar.org.

Ikeja Branch: Payments can be made through https://members.nbaikeja.ng.

All other branches can pat through their various payment portals. Ensure you obtain and keep receipts of all payments for your records.

#### 5.3 Obtaining a Digital Practice Licence

In 2025, the NBA introduced digital Annual Practice Licenses to streamline verification processes and enhance accessibility.

#### Steps to Obtain:

- 1. Pay your Annual Bar Practicing Fee (BPF).
- 2. Log in to the NBA portal at https://portal.nigerianbar.org.ng.
- 3. Update your personal and professional details.
- 4. Download your digital practice license from your dashboard.

#### 5.4 Court Filing Procedures

Understanding court filing procedures is crucial for effective legal practice. While procedures may vary across jurisdictions, general steps include:

- Document Preparation: Ensure all legal documents are correctly formatted and contain necessary information.
- **Filing:** Submit documents to the appropriate court registry, either physically or through electronic filing systems where available.
- Fees: Pay requisite filing fees as stipulated by the court.



#### 5.5 Charging & Remuneration Order 2023

The Legal Practitioners Remuneration (For Business, Legal Services and Representation) Order 2023, signed into law on the 16th day of May 2023 by the Honourable Attorney General of the Federation and Minister for Justice in his capacity as Chairman of the Legal Practitioners Remuneration Committee as provided under S.15(3) of the Legal Practitioners Act has made extensive provisions for remuneration of Legal Practitioners. The Order establishes standardised fees for various legal services, promoting fairness and transparency in legal billing.

#### **Key Highlights of the Order:**

- i. Sets minimum fees for services such as drafting legal documents, court representations, and corporate filings.
- ii. Encourages the use of written agreements detailing fees between lawyers and clients.
- iii. Aims to prevent undercharging and uphold the profession's integrity. For detailed guidelines and the scale of charges, consult the NBA's implementation guide by clicking here.

To get a copy of this Order, please click on this link - https://blog.nigerianbar.org.ng/wp-content/uploads/2025/03/Legal-Practitioners-Renumeration-Order-2023.pdf.

#### 5.6 Role of the Branch Treasurer

The Branch Treasurer plays a pivotal role in managing the financial affairs of the NBA branch, including:

- Collecting and recording payments of Branch Dues.
- Issuing receipts and maintaining accurate financial records.
- Coordinating with national NBA bodies on financial matters.

Engaging with your Branch Treasurer ensures transparency and keeps you informed about your financial obligations within the association.

In concluding this section, it is important to note that familiarising yourself with these systems and processes is essential for a successful legal career in Nigeria. Staying informed and compliant not only enhances your professional standing but also contributes to the integrity and efficiency of the legal system.





SECTION SIX

### NBA-YOUNG LAWYERS FORUM (NBA-YLF)

The Nigerian Bar Association – Young Lawyers Forum (NBA-YLF) stands as the premier platform for empowering Nigeria's next generation of legal professionals. As the largest network of young legal practitioners across Africa, NBA-YLF plays a pivotal role in shaping the future of the legal profession through advocacy, innovation, and inclusive leadership.

Rooted in a vision to build a thriving, ethical, and forward-looking legal community, the Forum is dedicated to fostering professional growth, safeguarding welfare, and creating opportunities for every young lawyer to contribute meaningfully to society. We believe that young lawyers are not merely future leaders, they are current changemakers, innovators, and catalysts of justice.

#### **Objectives**

At the core of NBA-YLF's efforts are four driving objectives: Enhancing Professional Development, Promoting Work-Life Balance, Fostering Inclusivity and Diversity and Encouraging Innovation and Collaboration.





#### **Structure**

Our structure reflects our commitment to participatory leadership and decentralized impact:

The NBA-YLF Governing Council is the highest decision-making body within the Forum. Appointed by the NBA President, the Council is headed by a Chairman and serves a two-year tenure. It provides national oversight, leadership, and strategic direction.

Specialized Committees drive action in key areas including LegalTech, mentorship, economic empowerment, and access to justice.

The Forum of Chairpersons, comprising all branch YLF leaders, serves as a bridge between national and local activities, ensuring feedback, collaboration, and alignment. At the heart of it all are our members, early-career lawyers (1–7 years post-call)—actively shaping the profession's future from the grassroots to the global stage.

NBA-YLF is a movement. A movement of bold, ethical, and purpose-driven young professionals who are redefining what it means to practice law in Nigeria and beyond.



#### **OUR COMMITMENT TO YOU**

As a young lawyer, joining NBA-YLF connects you to a wealth of opportunities:

- i Lifelong mentorship from industry leaders
- ii Professional visibility and career advancement
- iii Access to CLE programs, webinars, and public interest initiatives
- iv NBA Health Insurance Scheme, stamps & seals for practice
- Participation in thought leadership, policy dialogue, and global forums
- vi A vibrant community that values you, your growth, your ideas, and your voice

#### JOIN THE MOVEMENT

- i Get involved. Be visible. Lead change.
- ii Attend branch meetings and national
- Volunteer, write, and contribute to legal development
- Join a committee, share your insights, and shape the future
- v Network intentionally, locally and globally



#### **OUR ETHOS**

We lead with Respect, guided by Integrity, fuelled by Excellence, and committed to Collaboration, Professional Development, and Inclusion. These values are the pillars of our practice and the foundation of our impact.

**2025 Governing Council of the NBA National Young Lawyers Forum** On Monday 16th December 2024, the NBA President, Mazi Afam Osigwe, SAN, officially inaugurated the Governing Council of the NBA Young Lawyers Forum (NBA-YLF). The Inaugurated members are as follows:

- 1. Timothy Clement Chairman
- 2. Etaba Agbor Secretary
- 3. Tochukwu J. Iheme Assistant Secretary
- 4. Chiemerie Okolo Treasurer
- 5. Adakole I. Abakpa Welfare Secretary
- 6. Gabriel Agboola Publicity Secretary
- 7. Ntyang Jugu
- 8. Maryam Farouk Ismat
- 9. Safinaz Ismail Gilima
- 10. Salsabella Abubakar Bislava
- 11. Prayer Inya Oko
- 12. Naomi Osezele Aitomun
- 13. Imam Fulani Adul Lateef
- 14. Sumuko Wisdom Umina
- 15. Ramlat Arfah Ridhwan
- 16. Elijah Josiah Chukwunuruekperem
- 17. Elijah Israel Elijah







# PROJECT UNLEASH MENTORSHIP

#### Introduction:

Project Unleash Mentorship is a specialized mentorship program designed by the NBA-YLF Mentorship Committee to suit the basic needs of New Wigs at the Nigerian Bar Association. The project is to ensure that every interested lawyer within the category finds a safe start to the profession.

#### **Mode of Operation:**

Every interested new wig will be paired with a Mentor within 3-7 years Post Call Experience taking areas of practice and proximity of jurisdiction as the primary determiners for the pairings.

On the 28th day of every month, New Wigs who have enrolled in Project Unleash Mentorship will send reports containing detailed engagements with their Mentors for the purpose of accountability, with a view to continuing the Mentorship or reassigning the Mentees to other Mentors.

#### **Available Areas of Law for Mentorship:**

Litigation, Commercial Law, Labour Law, Arbitration and ADR, Entertainment Law, Corporate Law, Real Estate and Property Law, Energy Law, Environmental Law, Sports law, Criminal Law, Family Law, In-House Practices, Taxation, Legal Research and Academics, Debt Recovery Practices, Draftings and Intellectual Property Law.





#### **Expectations:**

Every Mentee under this scheme is expected to maintain and furnish the Committee with monthly reports on the 28th day of every month containing the following information:

- 1. Tasks assigned for the month by Mentor
- 2. Tasks completed and reason for not completing tasks assigned (if any)
- 3. Lessons learned from Mentor
- 4. Results Mentee achieved with the aid of Mentor
- 5. Results Mentee achieved as a result of inspiration and lessons learned in the course of the mentorship
- 6. Practical experiences and engagements from the Mentor
- 7. Expectations for the coming month.
- Each Mentee under Project Unleash Mentorship is expected to maintain the best composure and character while interfacing with their Mentor.
- Mentees are to deliver assigned tasks when due.
- All Mentees are required to exude great level of confidence and willingness to undertake tasks assigned by Mentors and never give the Mentors reasons to doubt their competence.
- Mentees should be quick to apologise to their Mentors and inform the YLF Mentorship Committee of any ill-treatment they experience in the course of this campaign.
- The Young Lawyers Forum does not expect any Mentee to give his or her Mentor gifts. However, in the event that a Mentee decides to gift a Mentor, it should be without compulsion, and we expect that Mentees report any form of stigmatization they experience in the course of this campaign.
- Mentees must quickly reach out to their Mentors and remember that the success of this scheme largely depends on their zeal, character, and competence.

We expect that Mentees always have it in mind that they are not the only Mentee assigned to their Mentor and as such, they must ensure to constantly keep communication with their Mentors (we recommend daily or weekly intervals).

#### Benefits and Opportunities Available Through our Strategies

- 1. Proper and structured career development
- 2. Knowledge transfer
- 3. Industry insights
- 4. Validation
- 5. Guidance in goal settings and support
- 6. Accountability in growth
- 7. Quick transition into choice areas of practice
- 8. Increased visibility and connections for Mentees.
- 9. Safety that comes with mentorship

#### How to Reach Us:

Send a mail to nbaylfmentorshipco@gmail.com today to get started.

In conclusion, we believe that the importance of mentorship cannot be overemphasized and connecting with the initiatives of the NBA-YLF Mentorship Committee will not just lead new wigs into making informed choices about their careers but will transcend into the formation of the finest lawyers.

#### Olisaeloka Onwudinjo Esq, AICMC, LL.M

YLF Mentorship Committee Chairman



