C U R R I C U L U M V I T A E



DR. RAPULU ERNEST NDUKA

LL.B (Abia State Univ.) | LL.M – IT & Telecom Law (Strathclyde, UK)
PhD – Cyber-Law (UNISA, S.A.) | BL | JP | Notary Public

CANDIDATE FOR GENERAL SECRETARY, NIGERIAN BAR ASSOCIATION

#unwRAPaNewSecretariat #TheEngine

PERSONAL PROFILE

Full Name:	Dr. Rapuluchukwu Ernest Nduka
Law Firm:	J.R. Nduka SAN & Partners — Partner & Deputy Head of Chambers
Called to Bar:	2005 — Second Class Upper Division (Nigerian Law School, Lagos Campus)
Years at Bar:	Over 20 years of active legal practice
Family:	Married to a Magistrate; blessed with children
Status:	Justice of the Peace I Notary Public

20+	2005	PhD	5+	20+
Years at Bar	Called to Bar	Highest Degree	Bar Leadership Roles	Publications

INTRODUCTION

Three distinct chapters of service have converged to prepare Dr. Rapulu Ernest Nduka uniquely for the office of General Secretary of the Nigerian Bar Association: his stewardship of the Onitsha Branch Secretariat, his membership of the General Council of the Bar, and his tenure as National Publicity Secretary under President Olumide Akpata. Each chapter built upon the last, and together, they constitute the most comprehensive preparation any candidate can bring to this office.

As Secretary of the Onitsha Branch, he ran a live secretariat, managing minutes, correspondence, governance processes, member records, and committee administration on a daily basis. He did not observe secretarial work from a distance; he did it, reformed it, and digitalised it. That hands-on mastery of secretarial administration is the bedrock upon which the General Secretary's office is built.
As a member of the General Council of the Bar (2022–2024), he engaged with the profession's highest policy-making conversations, understanding the Bar not merely as a practitioner but as a steward of its institutional direction.

And as National Publicity Secretary under President Olumide Akpata (2020–2022), he revolutionised the NBA's communications infrastructure, rebranded the Association's public image, and ensured that every stratum of membership remained consistently informed. He brought the voice of the Bar to the public and amplified the voice of the membership to leadership. The General Secretaryship demands precisely this combination: secretarial experience, governance exposure, and national executive capacity. Dr. Nduka does not merely meet that standard - he defines it.

EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND

Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) — Cyber-Law *2020*
University of South Africa (UNISA), Pretoria

Master of Laws (LL.M) — IT & Telecommunications Law *2009*
University of Strathclyde, Glasgow, United Kingdom

Bachelor of Laws (LL.B) *2003*
Abia State University, Uturu

Bar at Law (BL) — Second Class Upper Division *2005*
Nigerian Law School, Lagos Campus

West African School Certificate (WASC) — With Distinction *1998*
Dennis Memorial Grammar School, Onitsha

SERVICE TO THE NIGERIAN BAR ASSOCIATION

A. National Level

National Publicity Secretary, NBA
2020 – 2022 | Under President Olumide Akpata

Completely overhauled the NBA's communications strategy and public engagement apparatus. Rebranded the Association, ensured members were continuously updated on executive activities, and maintained a strong, positive Bar presence in the public consciousness. His work directly mirrors the mandate of the General Secretary and is the strongest evidence of his readiness for that office.

Member, General Council of the Bar
2022 – 2024

Served on one of the apex governing body of the legal profession in Nigeria, contributing to policy deliberations, institutional governance, and the stewardship of the profession at the highest level.

Member, General Purposes Committee, NBA
2022 – 2024

B. Branch Level — Onitsha Branch, Nigerian Bar Association

Secretary, Onitsha Branch of the NBA *2016 – 2018*
Publicity Secretary, Onitsha Branch of the NBA *2014 – 2016*

> *"As Branch Secretary, Dr. Nduka did not merely occupy the office — he redefined it. He championed a comprehensive digitalisation programme that transformed the Onitsha Branch from a paper-dependent secretariat into a technology-driven, responsive administrative centre, arguably the most forward-looking branch administration in the South East at the time."*

i. Digitalisation of the Branch Secretariat

- Pioneered the full digitalisation of the Onitsha Branch Secretariat - the first structured effort to transition the Branch from analogue administrative processes to a technology-enabled operational framework
- Ensured the Secretariat was connected to the internet, providing real-time access to NBA communications, legal databases, and national directives - ending the Branch's historical dependence on physical correspondence
- Introduced electronic distribution of Branch minutes: all meeting minutes were prepared, formatted, and transmitted electronically to every member within stipulated timelines, replacing the slow and unreliable practice of manual distribution
- Established an electronic contact and membership database for the Onitsha Branch, enabling prompt, reliable and verifiable communication with the entire membership for the first time
- Introduced a digital filing and records management system, ensuring that Branch documents - resolutions, correspondence, financial records, and committee reports- were systematically

archived and retrievable
- Deployed email as the primary official communication channel of the Secretariat, with standardised templates and protocols to ensure consistency and professionalism in all outgoing Branch correspondence
- Introduced digital notice boards and electronic circulation of event announcements, committee updates, and regulatory advisories, dramatically increasing member engagement and participation
- Ensured the Secretariat was equipped with functional ICT infrastructure, including computers, printers, and high-speed internet connectivity - upgrading what was previously a manual-typewriter-era office into a modern administrative hub
- Coordinated with the Branch ICT Committee to develop a digital communication policy, establishing standard turnaround times for correspondence and minutes - bringing the Onitsha Branch in line with best practices in professional association management

ii. Publications & Knowledge Management

- Founded and published the Premier Bar Newsletter - the first-ever newsletter of the Onitsha Branch, giving the Branch a regular, credible publication for communicating internally and projecting its activities to the wider public
- Co-Founded and published the Premier Bar Journal - the first legal journal of the Onitsha Branch, establishing a scholarly tradition and providing members with a platform for academic and professional discourse
- Introduced a systematic approach to documenting Branch history and activities, ensuring that institutional memory was preserved for the benefit of future administrations

iii. Governance & Administrative Reforms

- Streamlined all secretarial processes, reducing administrative backlogs and improving the speed and accuracy of correspondence, filings, and committee communications
- Introduced a structured meeting management protocol: agendas were circulated in advance, minutes were taken with precision, and action items were tracked to completion — elevating the quality of Branch governance
- Served as Secretary to the 2018 Branch Election Monitoring Committee (South East Zone), successfully managing the resolution of electoral disputes across multiple Branches with impartiality and procedural rigour
- Maintained a clean and comprehensive record of all Branch resolutions, correspondence with the NBA National Secretariat, and reports to the Annual General Conference — providing accountability and institutional continuity

iv. Continuing Legal Education & Member Welfare

- As Secretary of the Continuing Legal Education (CLE) Committee, coordinated the scheduling, logistics, and documentation of CLE programmes, expanding member access to professional development opportunities
- Worked with the Welfare Committee to improve the Branch's responsiveness to member welfare concerns, including the documentation and follow-up of welfare requests
- Championed member participation in Branch activities through improved communication, timely notifications, and an open-door secretariat policy

Branch Committee Service

Chairman, Editorial Committee	*2014-2018*	Member, ICT Committee	*2014-date*
Secretary, Continuing Legal Education Committee	*2016-2018*	Member, Welfare Committee	*2014-2016*
Secretary, Land Committee	*2016-2018*	Member, Sports Committee	*2016-2018*
Member, Law Week Planning Committee	*2016-date*		

C. Nigerian Law School

Chairman, Students' Representative Council — Nigerian Law School, Lagos Campus (2004–2005)

SCHOLARSHIP & ACADEMIC CONTRIBUTIONS

Authored Book:

"Telecommunications Law in Nigeria — A Case for Development" (LAP Academic Publications, Germany)

Published Articles & Conference Papers (Selected):

- *Regulating Artificial Intelligence: The Need to Safeguard the Future*
- *Anarchism as a Tool of Development: Lessons from the #EndSARS Protests*
- *Justiciability of Chapter II of the Nigerian Constitution: A Need for Judicial Activism in Its Interpretation*
- *The Need for Harmonised and Specialised Global Legislation to Address the Growing Spectre of Cybercrime*

Dr. Nduka's scholarly interests span **electronic evidence**, **information and communications technology law**, **cyber-law**, and **artificial intelligence regulation** — areas of growing relevance to the future of legal practice in Nigeria and globally.

PROFESSIONAL PRACTICE

Partner & Deputy Head of Chambers

J.R. Nduka SAN & Partners

Dr. Nduka's practice spans **commercial litigation**, **corporate advisory**, and **technology law**. With over two decades at the Bar, he has appeared in courts across Nigeria and earned a reputation for intellectual rigour, ethical conduct, and advocacy excellence.

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

● International Association for Artificial Intelligence and Law (IAAIL)	● Technology Law Society of Nigeria (TLSN)
● Internet Attorneys Association (IAA)	● Christian Lawyers Fellowship of Nigeria (CLASFON) — Immediate Past Chairman, Onitsha Branch
● Advocates International	

PUBLIC SERVICE & RECOGNITION

- **Notary Public:** Commissioned and serving
- **Public Speaker:** Commentator on legal and technology policy issues

VISION FOR THE GENERAL SECRETARYSHIP

The General Secretary is the administrative heartbeat of the Nigerian Bar Association. The office demands an individual who combines **institutional knowledge**, **administrative excellence**, **technological competence**, and **deep commitment to the welfare of the profession**. Dr. Nduka brings all of these — forged through 20 years of active practice, national executive leadership, apex governance on the General Council of the Bar, and a demonstrated capacity to manage high-profile institutional mandates at the national level.

His record of digitalising and transforming the Onitsha Branch Secretariat, and later revolutionising national