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Anti - Vice Section A,
Criminal Investigation Department,
The Nigeria Police Force,
FCT Police Command,
Abuja.

9th September 2024.

The Deputy Commissioner of Police,
Criminal Investigation Department,
The Nigeria Police Force,
FCT Police Command,
Abuja.

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The Commissioner of Police
'D' Dept CID
Legal / Prosecution Section
FCT Command, Abuja
DATE: 21-10-2024
Inspr. Stephen Obayige

POLICE INVESTIGATION REPORT
CASE OF CONSPIRACY; CYBERSTALKING;
DEFAMATION; INTIMIDATION; WILLFULLY PLACING A
PERSON IN FEAR OF PHYSICAL INJURY; AND
EMOTIONAL, VERBAL & PSYCHOLOGICAL ABUSE
FCT/X/D15A/139/2024

Complainant: Jude Ezeobi 'M' of No. 15, SFAX Street, Wuse Zone 4 - Abuja.

Suspects: 1. Felix Chukwuma Ashimole 'M' Aged 52 Years of Chè Oyinetumba & Associates, Suite 22, Ejime Plaza, Kubwa, Bwari Area Council – Federal Capital Territory.
2. Kubwa Express.Com % Felix Chukwuma Ashimole 'M', Chè Oyinetumba & Associates, Suite 22, Ejime Plaza, Kubwa, Bwari Area Council – Federal Capital Territory.

Offences: Conspiracy (Sec 27(1)(b) Cybercrimes (Prohibition, Prevention, ETC) Act); Cyberstalking (Sec 24(1)(a), 24(1)(b), 24(2)(a), 24(2)(b) & 24(2)(c); Cybercrimes (Prohibition, Prevention, ETC) Act); Defamation (Sec 391 PC); Intimidation (Sec 18(1), 18(2), 18(3) & 18(4); Violence Against Persons (Prohibition) Act); Wilfully Placing a Person in fear of Physical Injury (Sec 4(1), 4(2), 4(3) & 4(4); Violence Against Persons (Prohibition) Act); and Emotional, Verbal & Psychological Abuse (Sec 14(1), 14(2), 14(3) & 14(4); Violence Against Persons (Prohibition) Act).

IPO's: Anti – Vice Section A.

INTRODUCTION: This deals with a case of Conspiracy; Cyberstalking; Defamation; Intimidation; Wilfully Placing a Person in Fear of Physical Injury; and Emotional, Verbal & Psychological Abuse; contrary to Sections 27(1)(b); & 24(1)(a), 24(1)(b), 24(2)(a), 24(2)(b) & 24(2)(c) of the Cybercrimes (Prohibition, Prevention, ETC) Act; Section 391

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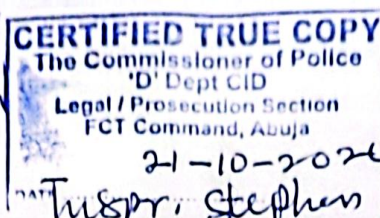
of the Penal Code Law; and Sections 18(1), 18(2), 18(3) & 18(4); 4(1), 4(2), 4(3) & 4(4); & 14(1), 14(2), 14(3) & 14(4) of the Violence Against Persons (Prohibition) Act; respectively, reported to the Commissioner of Police, FCT Police Command, Abuja, through a written petition dated **21st August 2024**, titled '**1. PETITION AGAINST ONE FELIX CHUKWUMA ASHIMOLE ESQ. OF KUBWA EXPRESS.COM FOR CRIMINAL DEFAMATION, CONSPIRACY, CYBER-BULLYING, PUBLICATION OF FALSE/MALICIOUS STATEMENT AND THREAT TO LIFE; 2. REQUEST FOR INVESTIGATION AND URGENT NIGERIA POLICE FORCE PROTECTION**' signed by D. O. Atita Esq. of Ezeobi & Partners, No. 15, Sfax Street, Wuse Zone 4 - Abuja, on behalf of the complainant, Jude Ezeobi 'M', against the first suspect, Felix Chukwuma Ashimole 'M', and second suspect, Kubwa Express.com. The case was assigned to Anti - Vice Section A to investigate and report findings.

FACTS OF THE CASE: The complainant, Jude Ezeobi 'M', alleged that on 21st August 2024, the first suspect, Felix Chukwuma Ashimole 'M', who is a lawyer and publisher of an online publication known as the second suspect, Kubwa Express.com, made false and malicious statements about him in an online publication thus: *'The family is shocked and scandalized that Mr. Ezeobi and his Committee of friends has formed a condolence WhatsApp Group aimed at soliciting support from unsuspecting sympathizers towards Ulonna's burial'*. That after the publication he contacted the first suspect through a phone call about the publication being false and advised the first suspect to verify the content of the publication by giving him a right of response. However, the first suspect further shared the publication on the WhatsApp platform of the Law Centre which has over five hundred and forty (540) lawyers, professors, and Senior Advocates of Nigeria (SAN). That he released a statement on the same WhatsApp platform requesting the first suspect to delete the publication everywhere posted and replace it with an apology. The complainant, Jude Ezeobi 'M', alleged further that the first suspect, Felix Chukwuma Ashimole 'M', failed and refused to delete the publication but rather threatened thus: *'I have this and many more documents, including the record of proceedings that will bury you if you want us to go on this route'*. The complainant prayed on the Police to investigate the matter.

INVESTIGATION: Upon receipt of the complaint, the complainant, Jude Ezeobi 'M', was invited and he availed himself on 22nd August 2024, where he gave his explanatory statement on the matter.

An invitation letter dated 23rd August 2024, was sent to the WhatsApp phone number of the first suspect, Felix Chukwuma Ashimole 'M', i.e., +2348033916133 and e-mail address of the second suspect, Kubwa Express.com, i.e., info@kubwaexpress.com. The

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first suspect called to inform detectives that he was attending the Nigerian Bar Association (NBA) conference.

Arrest & Search Warrants were signed in favour of the first suspect, Felix Chukwuma Ashimole 'M', on 23rd August 2024.

In compliance to the Administration of Criminal Justice Act, an application in support of Arrest & Search Warrants in favour of the suspect, Felix Chukwuma Ashimole 'M', was sworn to at High Court of the Federal Capital Territory, Wuse Zone 2 – Abuja, on 26th August 2024.

The first suspect, Felix Chukwuma Ashimole 'M', availed himself on 3rd September 2024, where he gave his voluntarily statement under word of caution and endorsed his invitation letter. He provided documents to back his voluntary statement.

PRECIE OF EVIDENCE:

1. STATEMENT OF JUDE EZEObI 'M' (COMPLAINANT): He adopted his petition in its entirety in his explanatory statement.

2. STATEMENT OF FELIX CHUKWUMA ASHIMOLE 'M' (FIRST SUSPECT): In his voluntarily statement taken under words of caution, he averred that he is a legal practitioner and co-publisher of the second suspect, Kubwa Express, a local newspaper with online publications. That he did not know the complainant, Jude Ezeobi 'M', as at the time of the publication and only met with him on the sidelines of the Nigeria Bar Association Annual Conference on 29th August 2024, in Lagos. A Justice of the Court of Appeal had called on him to meet him and the complainant to resolve the issues and that they spoke at length to the extent that a corrigendum was given to the complainant to read, edit before publication which he did. That at no time did he threaten physical harm or assault against the complainant. He averred further that the publication was done based on the information supplied by his late wife, a copy of the judgement nullifying his marriage to his former wife, Ulonna Odochi Inyama Ezeobi 'F', and a letter from her family. When the complainant, Jude Ezeobi 'M', read the publication, he called him via WhatsApp and introduced himself and expressed his displeasure over the publication. That he apologised and offered the complainant the right to publish his side of the story as a rejoinder, a corrigendum of a full interview, but the complainant refused and proceeded with a publication in Vanguard Newspaper asking that justice should be done. That he reached out to mutual friends, and members of the same lawyers WhatsApp groups he and the complainant belonged informing them that he had offered the complainant to give his side of the story.

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FINDINGS: During investigation, the following facts emerged:

- i) That the suspect, Felix Chukwuma Ashimole 'M', is a legal practitioner and co-publisher of second suspect, Kubwa Express.com, a local newspaper with online publication ww.kubwaexpress.com.
- ii) That the first suspect, Felix Chukwuma Ashimole 'M', published an article he wrote on 21st August 2024, titled 'Family of Late Wigwe University Registrar Warns Against Dealing with Jude Obiora Ezeobi Her Purported Husband' on the pages of the second suspect, Kubwa Express.com.
- iii) That in the article mentioned in ii) above, the first suspect, Felix Chukwuma Ashimole 'M', alleged that the family of late Ulonna Odochi Inyama Ezeobi 'F', had advised against dealing with the complainant, Jude Ezeobi 'M', who has been claiming to be the husband of Ulonna Odochi Inyama Ezeobi 'F', despite the nullification of their marriage by an FCT High Court on 17th October 2023.
- iv) That in the article mentioned in ii) above, the first suspect, Felix Chukwuma Ashimole 'M', alleged that the complainant, Jude Ezeobi 'M', was calling for contributions through a fake committee of friends to help him plan her funeral.
- v) That in the article mentioned in ii) above, the first suspect, Felix Chukwuma Ashimole 'M', alleged that the family of late Ulonna Odochi Inyama Ezeobi 'F', was shocked that the complainant, Jude Ezeobi 'M', had formed a condolence WhatsApp group aimed at soliciting support from unsuspecting sympathizers towards the burial of late Ulonna Odochi Inyama Ezeobi 'F'.
- vi) That one Christo Odianarewo posted on 13th August 2024, on a WhatsApp group chat called Hillside Neighbourhood Association which was created on 4th November 2017, and has sixty-five (65) members, informing its members that the complainant, Jude Ezeobi 'M', who is the founding chairman of the Association, had lost his wife, Ulonna Odochi Inyama Ezeobi 'F', and that members could reach out for condolences on the complainants phone number i.e., +2348036407147.
- vii) That the first suspect, Felix Chukwuma Ashimole 'M', has not been able to substantiate the claims that the complainant, Jude Ezeobi 'M', has been claiming to be the husband of Ulonna Odochi Inyama Ezeobi 'F', as mentioned in iii) above.
- viii) That the first suspect, Felix Chukwuma Ashimole 'M', has not been able to substantiate the claims that the complainant, Jude Ezeobi 'M', was calling for contributions through either a fake or genuine committee of friends to help him plan for the funeral of Ulonna Odochi Inyama Ezeobi 'F', as mentioned in iv) above.

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- ix) That the first suspect, Felix Chukwuma Ashimole 'M', has not been able to substantiate the claims that the complainant, Jude Ezeobi 'M', had formed a condolence WhatsApp group aimed at soliciting support from unsuspecting sympathizers towards the burial of late Ulonna Odochi Inyama Ezeobi 'F', as mentioned in v) above.
- x) That the first suspect, Felix Chukwuma Ashimole 'M', had threatened the complainant, Jude Ezeobi 'M', through a WhatsApp message sent on 21st August 2024, that *'I have this and many more documents, including record of proceedings that will bury you if you want us to go on this route'* after the complainant demanded a retraction and apology from the first suspect.
- xi) That the first suspect, Felix Chukwuma Ashimole 'M', shared the article mentioned in ii) above, on the WhatsApp platform of the Law Centre which has over five hundred and forty (540) lawyers including Senior Advocates of Nigeria (SAN) and professors on 21st August 2024.

SUMMARY AND RECOMMENDATION: Investigation into the case has been concluded and a prima facie case of Conspiracy; Cyberstalking; Defamation; Intimidation; Wilfully Placing a Person in fear of physical injury; and Emotional, Verbal & Psychological Abuse; contrary to Sections 27(1)(b); & 24(1)(a), 24(1)(b), 24(2)(a), 24(2)(b) & 24(2)(c) of the Cybercrimes (Prohibition, Prevention, ETC) Act; Sections 391 of the Penal Code Law; and Sections 18(1), 18(2), 18(3) & 18(4); 4(1), 4(2), 4(3) & 4(4); & 14(1), 14(2), 14(3) & 14(4) of the Violence Against Persons (Prohibition) Act; respectively, has been established against the first suspect, Felix Chukwuma Ashimole 'M', and second suspect, Kubwa Express.com.

In view of the above, it is recommended that the casefile be forwarded to the Legal Section for vetting and possible prosecution.

Above is for your information and further directives, please.

Yammmy CSP 09/09/2024
CSP NJAYO YAHAYA BAWUCHI PSC
*Sectional Head, Anti – Vice Section A,
Criminal Investigation Department,
The Nigeria Police Force,
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