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**LEGAL PRACTITIONERS ACT
(CAP L11 LFN, 2004)**

**LEGAL PRACTITIONERS REMUNERATION (FOR BUSINESS, LEGAL
SERVICE AND REPRESENTATION) ORDER, 2023**



ARRANGEMENT OF PARAGRAPHS

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SCHEDULES

S. I. No. 31 of 2023

LEGAL PRACTITIONERS ACT, (CAP L11, LFN 2004

LEGAL PRACTITIONERS REMUNERATION (FOR BUSINESS, LEGAL SERVICE AND REPRESENTATION) ORDER, 2023

[16th Day of, May, 2023]

Commence-
ment

In exercise of the powers conferred on it by section 15 (3) of the Legal Practitioners Act Cap L11, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004 and all other powers enabling it in that behalf, the Legal Practitioners Remuneration Committee makes the following Order—

1.—(1) The remuneration of a legal practitioner for business and service rendered shall in respect of—

Regulation of
remuneration
generally

(a) any consultation and legal opinion, be as prescribed in Scale 1 set out in the Schedule to this Order ;

(b) incorporations, or registration of Companies and Business Names be as prescribed in Scale 2 set out in the Schedule to this Order ;

(c) litigation, be as prescribed in Scale 3 set out in the Schedule to this Order ;

(d) property transactions, including Mortgages and related transactions, be as prescribed in Scale 4 set out in the Schedule to this Order.

(2) Without prejudice to any arrangement reached between a legal practitioner and his client on a percentage-based fee in respect of commercial or other transaction or service not covered in sub-paragraph (1) of this paragraph, the remuneration of a legal practitioner shall be as prescribed in Scale 5 set out in the Schedule to this Order,

provided that no percentage-based fee arrangement shall be lower than the minimum hourly rate prescribed in Scale 5 of the Schedule to this Order.

2. The scale of charges for any business or service not provided in this Order shall be determined in accordance with the—

Remuneration
with respect
to other
matters

(a) complexity of the matter, the difficulty or novelty of the issues in question ;

(b) skill, labour, experience, specialised knowledge and responsibility required on the part of the legal practitioner ;

(c) number, diversity, technicality and importance of the documents prepared or perused ;

(d) time expended by the legal practitioner on the business or service ;

(e) location and circumstances in which the business or service, or a part of it is transacted or performed ;

(f) turnaround time required by a client for completion of the business ;

(g) amount of money or value of property involved ; and

(h) importance attached to the business by the client.

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Exclusion of certain expenses

3.—(1) The remuneration prescribed in scales 1 to 5 set out in the Schedule to this Order shall not, unless as may be agreed by the parties, include costs and disbursements associated with —

(a) stamps, auctioneer's or valuer's charges, travelling expenses, fees paid on searches, fees paid to government or its agencies on registrations, costs of extracts or certified true copies from any register, court filing costs or other disbursements reasonably and properly paid ;

(b) any extra work occasioned by changes occurring in the course of any business such as the death, insolvency or winding up of a party to the transaction ;

(c) any application for first registration under any enactment relating to registration of any title to land or any other interest in land and associated filing costs necessitated by a transaction for which a scale of fee is payable to the legal practitioner ; and

(d) any application for consent required under the Land Use Act but shall include any engrossing charge and allowance for the time of the legal practitioner and his support staff and copying and parchment and all other similar disbursements.

(2) In this paragraph —

“Fees paid on searches” means —

(a) charges levied by any registry for permitting searches to be made ;

(b) charges, if any, levied by any registry for providing an official search ; and

(c) fees paid to a legal practitioner for making a search at a registry outside the district in which the legal practitioner conducting the search carries on his practice.

Drafts to be client's property

4. Drafts and copies of documents or instruments made in the course of business for which remuneration is provided under this Order shall be the property of the client.

A Legal practitioner may elect to charge differently

5. In all cases to which the remuneration prescribed in Scales 1 to 5 set out in the Schedule to this Order would be chargeable, a legal practitioner may, before undertaking any business or service, by writing under his hand, communicated to the client—

(a) elect that his remuneration shall be in accordance with the provisions of paragraph 2 of this Order ; and

(b) such remuneration shall not be lower than the minimum set out in the relevant or appropriate Scale.

Security against remuneration interest on disbursement

6.—(1) A legal practitioner may accept from his client, and the client may give to his legal practitioner, security for the amount to become due to the legal practitioner for business or services to be transacted by him and for interest on

such amount but such interest shall not commence till the amount due is ascertained, either by agreement or taxation.

(2) A legal practitioner may charge interest at 10 *per cent* per annum on his disbursement and cost whether by scale or otherwise, after the expiration of one month of demand from the client ; and where the disbursement and cost are payable by an infant or out of a fund not presently available, the demand may be made on the parent, guardian, trustee or other person liable.

7.—(1) A legal practitioner shall, before commencing work on any business or service, and not later than 14 days from the date of receipt of the instruction, issue written terms of engagement to his client, setting out the scope of work and fees.

Legal practitioner to issue terms of engagement in writing

(2) Where a legal practitioner is under a specific retainer, such retainer agreement shall suffice as the written terms of engagement covering the specific instruction.

(3) Where the legal practitioner is under a general retainer or it is agreed between the client and the legal practitioner, it shall be sufficient for the purpose of ascertaining the work carried out by the legal practitioner and the fees chargeable thereon, to consider the documents, processes prepared or verifiable steps taken by the legal practitioner in the discharge of the assignment.

(4) Where —

(a) a legal practitioner performs any work outside the stated scope of work ;
(b) the fees for the business or service becomes greater than what is mentioned in the terms of engagement ; or

(c) the fees for the business or service becomes ascertainable,
the legal practitioner may issue another terms of engagement to cover the new facts.

(5) In the event that a legal practitioner fails to issue a written engagement letter or terms of engagement to a client, and a dispute subsequently arises between the legal practitioner and the client regarding the fees payable for the services rendered, the provision contained in the scale specified in this Order shall apply to the transaction in question.

8.—(1) The fees chargeable for any business or service conducted by a legal practitioner are as prescribed in the Scales set out in the Schedule to this Order and they are not subject to negotiation except as prescribed in this Order.

Fees chargeable to be as specified in Scales

(2) All legal practitioners are to adhere to the fees prescribed in the Scales set out in the Schedule to this Order, and any deviation there from shall be—

(a) agreed upon by both the legal practitioner and the client ; and

(b) in strict compliance with the provisions of this Order.

B 710

Rules for the operation of fees specified in the Scales

Legal practitioner charging remuneration lower than as prescribed in Scales 1 to 5

9. The operation of the provisions of Scales 1 to 5 shall in each case be subject to the rules attached to each scale, if any.

10.—(1) Where a legal practitioner intends to charge or agree to any remuneration for any business or service which is lower than the amount specified for any of the businesses or services in Scales 1 to 5, he shall within 2 days of receiving such instructions from the client—

(a) apply to the Remuneration Committee of the Bar Association for an approval or refusal of the proposed remuneration ; and

(b) attach an affidavit disclosing the facts and circumstances necessitating the intention to charge the lower remuneration.

(2) Upon receipt of any communication from a legal practitioner with respect to the intention to charge a lower remuneration, the Remuneration Committee of the Bar Association shall investigate the claims within 7 days and either approve or refuse the application.

(3) The Remuneration Committee shall inform the legal practitioner of its decision within 2 days of reaching a decision and the legal practitioner shall comply accordingly.

(4) An application made under this paragraph shall not prevent the legal practitioner concerned from commencing or continuing work on the business while awaiting the decision of the Remuneration Committee.

(5) Where the Remuneration Committee rejects the application, the legal practitioner shall —

(a) issue to his client, a written terms of engagement detailing the work covered by the client's instruction and the appropriate fees payable as prescribed in scales 1 to 5 set out in the Schedule to this Order ; and

(b) attach a copy of the decision of the Remuneration Committee.

(6) Where the Remuneration Committee fails to reach a decision or convey its decision on an application made under this paragraph within the stated period, the application shall be deemed to have been granted.

Committee to receive report on remuneration

11.—(1) A person who has knowledge that a legal practitioner has charged or agreed to a remuneration in contravention of the provisions of this Order shall report such legal practitioner to the Remuneration Committee.

(2) The Remuneration Committee shall investigate the report and, upon establishing a case, report the infraction to the Legal Practitioners Disciplinary Committee (LPDC).

(3) The Remuneration Committee shall have power to delegate the investigation of any complaint to—

(a) the branch of the legal practitioner against whom the complaint is made ; or

(b) to such other legal practitioners in a team of not less than 3 and not more than 5 as it may deem fit.

(4) The Nigerian Bar Association shall set guidelines to be followed by the Remuneration Committee in the performance of its functions under this Order.

12.—(1) Notwithstanding anything contained in this Order, a legal practitioner is entitled to carry out *pro bono* work or legal aid matters recognised under the Legal Aid Act, 2011.

Exemption of
Pro Bono
work

(2) A legal practitioner may, in consideration of his relationship with his client by reason of consanguinity or affinity, charge no fees, and shall submit to the Remuneration Committee within 7 days of the instruction, an affidavit disclosing the facts and circumstances justifying gratuitous service to the client.

13.—(1) The Legal Practitioners' (Remuneration for Legal Documentation and other Land Matters) Order, 1991 is revoked.

Revocation

(2) The revocation under subparagraph (1) of this paragraph shall not affect anything done under the revoked Order.

14. In this Order—

Interpretation

“*Bar*” means the Nigerian Bar Association ;

“*Business*” includes, but is not limited to, legal advice, representation, negotiation, litigation, preparation or execution of legal documents, conveyancing, e-transactions, and other related administrative tasks necessary for the execution of the professional assignment on behalf of a client ;

“*Charges*” has the same meaning as provided for in the Legal Practitioners Act ;

“*Client*” means any individual, group, or entity who seeks and receives professional legal services from a legal practitioner including, but is not limited to, those on whose behalf a legal practitioner prepares a land instrument, those who seek legal advice or consultation, those who are represented in litigation, or those who require any other service a legal practitioner is empowered to perform by virtue of being a legal practitioner ;

“*General retainer*” means a contract between a legal practitioner and his client for all legal service, business or representation or as often as the client requires for same ;

“*Remuneration*” includes professional fees, commission, charges or reward payable to a legal practitioner for service rendered to a client ;

“*Specific retainer*” means a contract between a legal practitioner and his client over prescribed or identified areas of legal service, business or representation ;

“*States*” include the Federal Capital Territory, Abuja ;

“*State band 3*” includes Federal Capital Territory and Lagos State ;

“*State band 2*” includes Akwa Ibom, Bayelsa, Benue, Cross River, Delta, Edo, Ekiti, Kwara, Kogi, Nasarawa, Niger, Ogun, Ondo, Osun, Oyo, Plateau and Rivers States ;

“*State band 1*” includes Abia, Adamawa, Anambra, Bauchi, Borno, Ebonyi, Enugu, Gombe, Imo, Jigawa, Kaduna, Kano, Kastina, Kebbi, Sokoto, Taraba, Yobe and Zamfara States ;

“*State band 1, 2 and 3*” mean, with respect to a legal practitioner’s remuneration, the state where the legal practitioner carries on his practice or the state where the business or service is to be carried out ;

“*Tax office*” means any government agency which has jurisdiction over finance, internal generated revenue, and taxation in the various States in Nigeria and the Federal Capital Territory, Abuja.

Citation

15. This Order may be cited as the Legal Practitioners Remuneration (for Business, Legal Service and Representation) Order, 2023.

SCHEDULE

ORDER 1 and 8

SCALE 1

SCALE OF CHARGES ON CONSULTANCY AND LEGAL OPINION

CONSULTATION FEES	<i>State Band 1</i>	<i>State Band 2</i>	<i>State Band 3</i>
	<i>Minimum (₦)</i>	<i>Minimum (₦)</i>	<i>Minimum (₦)</i>
Legal Practitioners with 9 years post qualification experience or less	20,000	25,000	30,000
Legal practitioners with 10 years post qualification experience or above	100,000	150,000	200,000
Senior Advocates of Nigeria	300,000	400,000	500,000

Scale 2

SCALE OF CHARGES ON INCORPORATION OF COMPANIES AND BUSINESS NAMES

INCORPORATION	<i>State Band 1</i>	<i>State Band 2</i>	<i>State Band 3</i>
	<i>Minimum (₦)</i>	<i>Minimum (₦)</i>	<i>Minimum (₦)</i>
Legal Practitioners with 9 years post qualification experience or less	50,000	80,000	100,000
Legal practitioners with 10 years post qualification experience or above	100,000	150,000	200,000
Senior Advocates of Nigeria	300,000	400,000	500,000

SCALE 3

SCALE OF CHARGES ON LITIGATION

CIVIL LITIGATION

LABOUR DISPUTES	<i>State Band 1</i>	<i>State Band 2</i>	<i>State Band 3</i>
	<i>Minimum (₦)</i>	<i>Minimum (₦)</i>	<i>Minimum (₦)</i>
Legal Practitioners with 9 years post qualification experience or less	200,000	300,000	400,000
Legal practitioners with 10 years post qualification experience or above	500,000	600,000	700,000
Senior Advocates of Nigeria	2,000,000	2,500,000	3,000,000

CONTRACTUAL DISPUTES	<i>State Band 1</i>	<i>State Band 2</i>	<i>State Band 3</i>
	<i>Minimum (₦)</i>	<i>Minimum (₦)</i>	<i>Minimum (₦)</i>
Legal Practitioners with 9 years post qualification experience or less	300,000	400,000	500,000
Legal practitioners with 10 years post qualification experience or above	500,000	600,000	700,000
Senior Advocates of Nigeria	2,000,000	2,500,000	3,000,000

MARITIME & AVIATION DISPUTES	<i>State Band 1</i>	<i>State Band 2</i>	<i>State Band 3</i>
	<i>Minimum (₦)</i>	<i>Minimum (₦)</i>	<i>Minimum (₦)</i>
Legal Practitioners with 9 years post qualification experience or less	400,000	500,000	600,000
Legal practitioners with 10 years post qualification experience or above	600,000	700,000	800,000
Senior Advocates of Nigeria	3,000,000	3,500,000	4,000,000

ENERGY & MINING DISPUTES	<i>State Band 1</i>	<i>State Band 2</i>	<i>State Band 3</i>
	<i>Minimum (₦)</i>	<i>Minimum (₦)</i>	<i>Minimum (₦)</i>
Legal Practitioners with 9 years post qualification experience or less	500,000	600,000	700,000
Legal practitioners with 10 years post qualification experience or above	700,000	800,000	900,000
Senior Advocates of Nigeria	3,000,000	3,500,000	4,000,000

MISCELLANEOUS DISPUTES (including land, chieftaincy and other litigation matters)	<i>State Band 1</i>	<i>State Band 2</i>	<i>State Band 3</i>
	<i>Minimum (₦)</i>	<i>Minimum (₦)</i>	<i>Minimum (₦)</i>
Legal Practitioners with 9 years post qualification experience or less	400,000	500,000	600,000
Legal practitioners with 10 years post qualification experience or above	600,000	700,000	800,000
Senior Advocates of Nigeria	3,000,000	3,500,000	4,000,000
PROVIDED that in respect of Land lord/Tenant litigations, given the variance of rental values, remuneration of the legal practitioner shall be as provided for in paragraph 2 of this Order			

CRIMINAL LITIGATION

BAIL APPLICATION	<i>State Band 1</i>	<i>State Band 2</i>	<i>State Band 3</i>
	<i>Minimum (₦)</i>	<i>Minimum (₦)</i>	<i>Minimum (₦)</i>
Legal Practitioners with 9 years post qualification experience or less	50,000	100,000	150,000
Legal practitioners with 10 years post qualification experience or above	100,000	150,000	250,000
Senior Advocates of Nigeria	500,000	600,000	750,000

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MISDEMEANORS	<i>State Band 1</i>	<i>State Band 2</i>	<i>State Band 3</i>
	<i>Minimum (₦)</i>	<i>Minimum (₦)</i>	<i>Minimum (₦)</i>
Legal Practitioners with 9 years post qualification experience or less	200,000	250,000	300,000
Legal practitioners with 10 years post qualification experience or above	300,000	400,000	500,000
Senior Advocates of Nigeria	1,000,000	1,500,000	2,000,000

FELONIES	<i>State Band 1</i>	<i>State Band 2</i>	<i>State Band 3</i>
	<i>Minimum (₦)</i>	<i>Minimum (₦)</i>	<i>Minimum (₦)</i>
Legal Practitioners with 9 years post qualification experience or less	300,000	350,000	400,000
Legal practitioners with 10 years post qualification experience or above	400,000	500,000	600,000
Senior Advocates of Nigeria	2,000,000	2,500,000	3,000,000

APPEALS

HIGH COURT	<i>State Band 1</i>	<i>State Band 2</i>	<i>State Band 3</i>
	<i>Minimum (₦)</i>	<i>Minimum (₦)</i>	<i>Minimum (₦)</i>
Legal Practitioners with 9 years post qualification experience or less	400,000	500,000	600,000
Legal practitioners with 10 years post qualification experience or above	600,000	700,000	800,000
Senior Advocates of Nigeria	3,000,000	3,500,000	4,000,000

SHARIA COURT OF APPEAL/ CUSTOMARY COURT OF APPEAL	<i>State Band 1</i>	<i>State Band 2</i>	<i>State Band 3</i>
	<i>Minimum (₦)</i>	<i>Minimum (₦)</i>	<i>Minimum (₦)</i>
Legal Practitioners with 9 years post qualification experience or less	400,000	500,000	600,000
Legal practitioners with 10 years post qualification experience or above	600,000	700,000	800,000
Senior Advocates of Nigeria	3,000,000	3,500,000	4,000,000

COURT OF APPEAL	<i>State Band 1</i>	<i>State Band 2</i>	<i>State Band 3</i>
	<i>Minimum (₦)</i>	<i>Minimum (₦)</i>	<i>Minimum (₦)</i>
Legal Practitioners with 9 years post qualification experience or less	500,000	600,000	700,000
Legal practitioners with 10 years post qualification experience or above	700,000	800,000	1,000,000
Senior Advocates of Nigeria	4,000,000	5,000,000	6,000,000

SUPREME COURT	<i>State Band 1</i>	<i>State Band 2</i>	<i>State Band 3</i>
	<i>Minimum (₦)</i>	<i>Minimum (₦)</i>	<i>Minimum (₦)</i>
Legal Practitioners with 9 years post qualification experience or less	600,000	700,000	800,000
Legal practitioners with 10 years post qualification experience or above	800,000	900,000	1,500,000
Senior Advocates of Nigeria	5,000,000	6,000,000	7,000,000

SCALE OF CHARGES ON PROPERTY TRANSACTIONS INCLUDING MORTGAGES AND RULES APPLICABLE THERETO ASSIGNMENTS, CONVEYANCES AND MORTGAGES

A	The Assignee's or Mortgagee's legal practitioner	Property Value or mortgage value in the case of a mortgage : < ₦50,000,000		Property Value or mortgage value in the case of a mortgage : ₦50,000,000 - ₦100,000,000		Property Value or mortgage value in the case of a mortgage : > ₦100,000,000 -		
		Minimum	Maximum	Minimum	Maximum	Minimum	Maximum	
	Conveyancing and Assignments (public or private auctions)	10%		₦5m for the first N50m and 5% of every subsequent amount up to N100m		₦7.5m for the first N100m and 3% of every subsequent amount		
	Mortgages	4%		₦2m for the first N50m and 3% of every subsequent amount up to N100m		₦4.5m for the first N100m and 2% of every subsequent amount		
B	The Assignor's or Mortgagor's legal practitioner	Scale of charges for reviewing the draft agreement shall be one half of the amount payable to the Assignee's or Mortgagee's legal practitioner.						

LEASES AND TENANCIES

A	<i>The Lessor's or Landlord's legal practitioner</i>	<i>Annual Rental Value < ₦5,000,000</i>		<i>Annual Rental Value ₦5,000,000 - ₦10,000,000</i>		<i>Annual Rental Value > ₦10,000,000 -</i>	
		<i>Minimum</i>	<i>Maximum</i>	<i>Minimum</i>	<i>Maximum</i>	<i>Minimum</i>	<i>Maximum</i>
	Concluding the lease/tenancy agreement	10%		₦500,000 for the first N5m and 5% of every subsequent amount up to N10m		₦750,000 for the first N5m and 5% of every subsequent amount above ₦10m	
B	The Lessee's or Tenant's legal practitioner	Scale of charges for reviewing the draft agreement shall be one half of the amount payable to the Lessor's or Landlord's legal practitioner.					

RULES APPLICABLE TO SCALE 4

Legal practitioner representing both parties.

1. A legal practitioner is representing both—

- (a) vendor and purchaser ;
- (b) lessor and lessee ; or
- (c) assignor and assignee,

is entitled to a minimum of 10 *per cent* of the value of the property or consideration as fees (the contribution rate to be agreed with both contracting parties).

Legal practitioners representing different parties.

2.—(1) Where an Agreement is —

(a) prepared by the lessor's or landlord's legal practitioner the agreement ; and

(b) reviewed by the lessee's or tenants' legal practitioner, the lessor or landlord's legal practitioner shall be entitled to 7.5 *per cent* of the value or consideration as fee while the lessee's or tenant's legal practitioner shall be entitled to 2.5 *per cent* of the value of the property or consideration as fee.

(2) Where an assignor or a vendor insists on his legal practitioner preparing his legal document, such legal practitioner shall be entitled to 2.5 *per cent* of the value of the property or consideration as fee while the assignee or purchaser's legal practitioner shall be entitled to 7.5 *per cent*.

Legal practitioner representing parties with distinctive interests.

3. Where a legal practitioner peruses a draft on behalf of several parties having distinct interests which ought to be separately represented, the Legal practitioner shall be entitled to charge each party 5 *per cent* of the value or consideration payable under the transaction.

Legal documentation prepared at the same time.

4. Where legal documents of the same property are completed at the same time and are prepared by the same legal practitioner, he shall be entitled to charge as provided for under rule 3 of these Rules, under this scale.

Commission/fees for sale by auction.

5. The Commission/fees for deducing title, perusing and completing legal documentation on a sale by auction shall be chargeable on each lot of property, but where a property held under the same title is divided into lots for convenience of sale and the same purchaser buys several lots and takes one legal document, the commission or fees shall be chargeable upon the aggregate prices of the lots.

Attempted sale by auction.

6.—(1) The commission/fees on an attempted sale by auction in lots shall be chargeable on the aggregate of the reserved prices.

(2) When property offered for sale by auction is bought and the terms of sale are afterwards negotiated and arranged by the legal practitioner, the legal practitioner shall be entitled to charge a commission/fees according to the above Scale on the reserved price where the property is not sold and also half of the commission for negotiating the sale.

(3) When property is bought and afterwards offered for sale by auction by the legal practitioner, the legal practitioner shall only be entitled to charge fees for

the first attempted sale and for each subsequent sale ineffectually attempted, he shall charge his fees according to the provisions of Scale 4 set out in this Schedule.

(4) In the case of subsequent effectual sale by auction, the full commission for the sale shall be chargeable in addition, less one half of the commission previously allowed on the first attempted sale.

(5) The provisions of these Rules as to commission/fees on sales or attempted sales by auction shall be subject to rule 10 of these Rules.

7. Where a property is sold subject to encumbrances, the value of the encumbrances shall be deemed a part of the purchase money, except where the mortgagee purchases, in which case the charges of his legal practitioner shall be calculated on the price of the equity redemption.

Encumbrances.

8. The Scale for mortgage shall apply to transfer of mortgage where the title is investigated but not to —

Transfer of mortgage.

(a) transfers where the title was investigated by the same legal practitioner on the original mortgage or on any previous transfers ; and

(b) further charges where the title has been so previously investigated, and the transfers and further charges, shall be regulated according to Scale 4 as set out in this Schedule, but the Scale for negotiating the loan shall be chargeable on such transfers as applicable.

9.—(1) The Scale for conducting a sale by auction shall apply only in cases where no commission is paid by the client to an auctioneer.

Sale by auction.

(2) The Scale for negotiation shall apply to cases where—

(a) a legal practitioner, a vendor or a purchaser, arranges the sale or purchase and the price, terms and conditions, and no commission is paid by the client to an auctioneer's legal practitioner ; and

(b) the legal practitioner arranges and obtains the loan from a person for whom he acts.

10. Where consideration on a lease or purchase is payable partly in cash, and otherwise than cash, a legal practitioner shall be entitled to remuneration based on the total agreed consideration of the subject of the transaction as contained in the appropriate scale of charges.

Consideration only partly in cash.

11. Where there is no legal practitioner acting for the lessor and the lessee's legal practitioner, without acting for the lessor, attends to preparing, completing and registering the lease and counterpart, he shall be entitled to the fees as prescribed in rule 3 of these Rules.

Remuneration where lessee's legal practitioner prepares, completes and registers lease.

12. The remuneration of a legal practitioner in respect of business or services connected with any sale, purchase, lease, mortgage and other matters of legal documentation and in line with the scale of charges contained in this order, shall be made payable in accordance with the following protocols :

Protocols on remittance of due remuneration.

(a) all remuneration payable to a legal practitioner and arising from business or legal services to a client, related to due diligence, review, preparation, documentation, or registration of any property instrument, (whether lease, tenancy, purchase, sale, assignment or of any other nature) or mortgage shall be in compliance with the relevant scale of charges as contained in these Orders ;

(b) except as otherwise provided in this Order, no legal practitioner shall charge or accept any fee less than the prescribed rates for any business or service rendered to any client ; and

(c) any legal practitioner who charges or accepts remuneration less than as prescribed in this Order, shall be liable for unprofessional conduct as prescribed in the Legal Practitioners Act.

Unprofessional
Conduct.

13. Any legal practitioner who conspires with his client or any other person to falsely endorse or state the value of professional fee, consideration, purchase price or value of a piece or parcel of land on an invoice, deed or any other document presented to the tax office shall be liable for unprofessional conduct.

Power to
Inspect.

14. The Remuneration Committee or an authorized officer of the Nigerian Bar Association, shall have power to investigate a legal practitioner where there is reasonable ground for believing that a provision of this Order has been breached.

SCALE 5

SCALE OF CHARGES ON OTHER COMMERCIAL TRANSACTIONS (HOURLY RATES)

HOURLY RATES

CATEGORIES	<i>State Band 1</i>	<i>State Band 2</i>	<i>State Band 3</i>
	<i>Minimum (₦)</i>	<i>Minimum (₦)</i>	<i>Minimum (₦)</i>
Associates (or legal practitioners between 0—6 years' experience)	10,000	20,000	30,000
Senior Associates (or legal practitioners between 6—12 years' experience)	20,000	80,000	120,000
Partners (or legal practitioners over 12 years experience including Senior Advocates of Nigeria)	50,000	150,000	200,000

DATED this 16th day of May 2023.

ABUBAKAR MALAMI, SAN, CON
Attorney-General of the Federation and Minister of Justice,
 Chairman, Legal Practitioners' Remuneration Committee