

# EFCCALERT.

A PUBLICATION OF THE ECONOMIC AND FINANCIAL CRIMES COMMISSION





**Book Choice Red Alert on Scam** 

An Artful Dodger





#### THE TEAM

Editor-in-Chief: Osita Nwajah

**Editor:** Wilson Uwujaren

#### **Assistant Editors:**

Dele Oyewale Williams Oseghale Tony Orilade Babatunde Sulaiman Segun Adeoye

#### **Bureau Chiefs:**

Sammin Amadin Innocent Ogbu Fatimah N. Abubakar Deborah Mezeh Ayanjide Ilupeju

#### **Photo Editors:** Monday Emoni

Franklyn Ogunleye

#### **Production Editors:**

Rolake Odofin-Jolayemi Adeleve Sodade

#### **CONTENTS**

#### Blazing the Trail 3

Twelve years on, the EFCC established on April 10, 2003 has truly come of age



- **Worthy Ambassador** 2
  - **Behold the Dream Team**
  - 10 Working Partnership
  - **Woman Power**
  - **An Artful Dodger**
  - **Love Pains**

**Feedback** 

**Positive Pact** 

**Book Choice** 

Be Warned!

Did You Know?

**Anti-Graft Parliament** 

The positions canvassed in this magazine are principally those of the writer(s) and do not represent those of the Economic and Financial Crimes Commission (EFCC). The Commission is therefore not to be held liable for such comments, views and information. Editorial contributions including photographs are welcome. Mail should be sent to:

The Editor, EFCC ALERT!,

5, Fomella Street, Wuse Zone 2, Abuja, Nigeria. OR 15A, Awolowo Road, Ikoyi, Lagos Email: alert@efccnigeria.org Tel: +234-9-6441102;6441107; 234-1-2692631



#### Keep it up!

Thanks for the magazine. This is a nice development. Please keep it up and ensure a wide circulation.

#### Andrew Iro Okungbowa

(Editor, Travel and Tourism) New Telegraph Newspapers

#### **Good work**

Thanks. Keep up the good work. Congratulations! Emmanuel Akomaye, MFR Pioneer Secretary, EFCC

#### Well done!

Great report! Well done to the team. Kind regards. Adejoke Liman DPPS, EFCC

#### Kudos!

Awesome work! I really like the publication because it's short and sharp. Kudos!

Aliyu A. Wali

External Cooperation Unit, EFCC

#### **Great Job**

This is to formally express my appreciation to the entire staff of the Commission, especially the media unit for the wonderful media/press relationship, which has greatly impacted on the coverage of your daily activities. Thank you once again.

Mohammed Omar Abdullahi

Crime Editor, NAN Lagos Office

# **BLAZING THE TRAIL**

Twelve years on, the EFCC established on April 10, 2003 has truly come of age

BY **SEGUN ADEOYE** 



n Thursday, April 10, 2003 when the Economic and Financial Crimes Commission, EFCC, was established, under the administration of former president Olusegun Obasanjo, not many gave it the slimmest of chances to succeed. But, not only has the anti-graft agency remained a shining light, it continues to prove critics wrong.

Below are milestones that hallmark the agency's existence in the last 12 years:

#### CONVICTIONS

The Commission has garnered over 1000 convictions since inception.

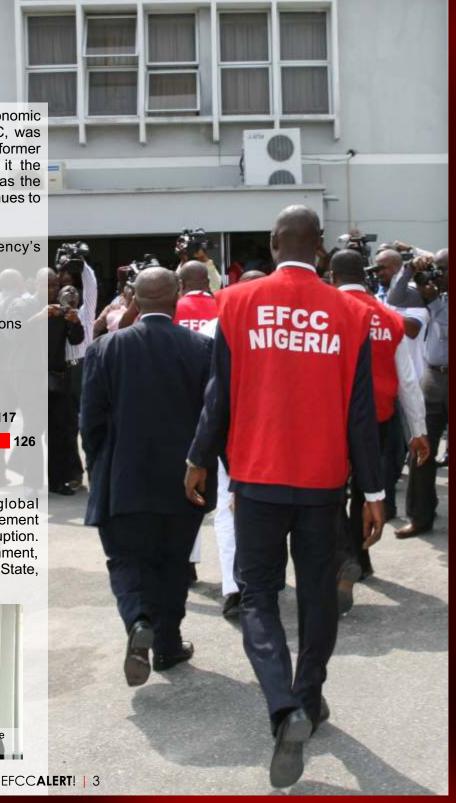
397 CONVICTIONS



#### RECOGNITION

The EFCC's efforts have seen it receive global recognition with more and more foreign law enforcement agencies associating with it in the war against corruption. Noteworthy, is partnership with the UK government, which eventually saw former governor of Delta State, James Ibori, facing justice.





#### **COLLABORATIONS**

The EFCC is currently collaborating with:

- Security
- The Homeland Security Investigations and Postal Inspection Service
- The West African Sharing Platform project with the Ghanaian Economic and Organized Crime Office
- The United States Department of Homeland The Economic Crime Agency Network (ECAN) a network comprising The City of London Police,
  - Corrupt Practices Investigation Bureau of Singapore, The European Anti-Fraud Office (OLAF), Hong Kong's Independent Commission against Corruption (ICAC),

The United States Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), The Malaysian Anti-Corruption Commission, New Zealand's Serious Fraud Office, The Serious Fraud Office of the United Kingdom, and The Indonesian Corruption Eradication Commission (KPK).

#### INTERNATIONAL MEMORANDA OF UNDERSTANDING

International MoUs or Joint Working Agreements have been signed with:

- The Australia Federal Police
  - The Global Fund
- United States Federal Trade Commission The World Bank
  - African Development Bank
- Western Australia Police
- Higher Authority against Corruption and Related Offences (HALCIA) Niger Republic
  - British Serious Fraud Office
- Economic Crimes Network (New Zealand)
- Association of Anti-Corruption Agencies in Commonwealth Africa, • United States Federal Trade Commission (FTC)
- Nigeria's Consumer Protection Council (CPC).

Joint Working Agreements were signed between the Serious Fraud Office (SFO) of the United Kingdom and EFCC in May 2013 in relation to Securency International Ltd. The Agreement was recently extended in December 2014 till December 2015.

#### **EASING NIGERIA'S GLOBAL ISOLATION**

The EFCC was instrumental to the removal of Nigeria from the Financial Action Task Forces' list of Non Cooperative Countries and Territories.

#### **EXTRADITIONS**

The partnership with international law enforcement agencies saw to the extradition of the following individuals:

> **Emmanuel Ekhator** who has already been tried and convicted of wire fraud in the United States. defrauded over 80 American law firms of funds in excess of \$32million.

Olaniyi Jones Makinde -Extradited to the United States for his role in stealing approximately \$3.2million from payroll companies and banks through wire fraud.

Rasheed Abayomi Mustapha - was extradited to the United States for defrauding an American company of \$800,000.





#### **RECOVERED**

Tens of billions of naira in cash and assets have been recovered by the agency since inception.



#### PREVENTION STRATEGY

From day one, the EFCC recognised that the people must own the war against corruption for success to be guaranteed. It took conscious steps to achieve this by engaging every segment of the society.





The following bodies are products of the Commission's drive to mobilise popular support for the anti-graft war:

Fix Nigeria Initiative - The precursor of what is today the Enlightenment and Re-orientation Unit of the Commission was created in 2006 to mobilise the Civil Society, NGOs and faith-based groups, women and youth organisations to embrace the war on corruption.

Anti-Corruption Revolution Campaign - Inaugurated in 2008, with a mandate to take the anticorruption message to all the nooks and crannies of the country with state and local government branches.

ACE-Network - emerged from the ashes of ANCOR as the new face of EFCC's drive for an inclusive assault against corruption, drawing strength from the collaborative resource of CSOs, NGOs, etc.



FATF team on inspection visit to EFCC in 2006

# Director-General, NLRC, Adolphus Ekpe and Executive Chairman, Ibrahim Lamorde

#### **POSITIVE PACT**

The EFCC signs pact with the National Lottery Regulatory Commission to check lottery scams, six days before it formally unveiled its Red Alert on Scam

#### BY **SEGUN ADEOYE**

While receiving the NLRC Director General, Adolphus Ekpe, at the EFCC headquarters, Lamorde said, "We will make available operatives with respect to enforcement of the National Lottery Act, in the area of training, investigation and prosecution, so as to have a joint team to clean up the system for the good of the country".

Ekpe described the lottery business as "a tool for job creation, wealth redistribution and national development."

The prevalence of lottery fraud along with similar scams, made the EFCC to publish the *Red Alert on Scam*.

hey are two events apart, both of which share one thing in common – to rally the public against scammers, particularly lottery scammers.

On March 17, 2015, the Chairman of the EFCC, Ibrahim Lamorde, signed a Memorandum of Understanding, MoU, with the National Lottery Regulatory Commission, NLRC, and expressed the resolve of the anti-graft

"We will make available operatives with respect to enforcement of the National Lottery Act in the area of training, investigation and prosecution"

agency to partner with it to clean up the lottery industry, of cheats and illegal lottery operators.

# **BOOK CHOICE**

# Wisdom in Small Package

A new publication by the EFCC, **Red Alert on Scam**, exposes the various tricks used by fraudsters

#### BY **SALAMATU HABU**

Enlightening and educating, the 38page book, published by the EFCC, has 17 sections - E-Commerce/Card Fraud. Wonder Bank/Ponzi Schemes, Romance and Dating Scam, Employment Scam, Identity Theft/Phishing Scam, Contract Scam/Funds Transfer, Inheritance Scam, Charity Scam, Juju Scam, Lottery Scam, Crude Oil/Mineral Resources Sales Scam, Wash-Wash (Money) Scam, Scholarship Scam, Auction/Product Scam, Emergency Scam, Immigration/Visa Scam, and Local

It sheds light on the different types of scams, and highlights the red flags to watch out for.

Purchase Order Scam.

An initiative of the EFCC's Media and Publicity Unit, it prods members of the public to be proactive, by getting them to be familiar with the techniques of tricksters.

Perhaps, Laura Wallman, an American citizen who was swindled in a love scam to the tune of \$53,500 would not have been a victim, if she had read the book.

The book is an invaluable resource material that everybody should have and share with others.

It is expected that as fraudsters evolve new tricks, such would be uncovered by the EFCC and included in future reviews of the book.



he Red Alert on Scam is an easy to read book, written in lucid style with striking cartoon illustrations, highlighting the various tricks used by fraudsters.

# BE **WARNED!**

It was long in coming -Red Alert on Scam. a book from the stable of the EFCC's Media and Publicity Unit, designed as a guide for the general public, and structured as a resource material, was formally unveiled by the anti-graft agency's boss, Ibrahim Lamorde, on March 23, 2015. In this first part of a series, **EFCC** Alert! sheds light on Lottery Scam



ottery Scam can be described as a type of advanced fee fraud, which usually starts with you receiving a congratulatory notification, which can be via email, text message, fax, phone call, or even letter, by post.

While lottery itself may not be morally wrong, fraudsters have turned it to a veritable goldmine, which they explore to defraud unsuspecting individuals.

The deceptive messages come in the mould of congratulations, notifying you of winning a lottery.

It could read like this:

"CONGRATULATIONS WINNING **NOTIFICATION** 

...My Dear...

We happily announce to you the draw of the Euro-Afro-American Sweepstake Lottery International programs held on the 28th DECEMBER. Your e-mail address attached to ticket number: B9564 75604545 188 with serial number 97560 drew the winning: 06/13/17/23/32/43, which subsequently won you the lottery in the 2nd category. You have therefore been approved to claim a total sum of US\$820,000.00 in cash credited to file KPC/9080118308/02..."



#### What to Note

Ask yourself: "Did I participate in any lottery?"

- Usually, after notifying you of such mouth-watering harvest, you'll be asked to "keep your notification" confidential, and to contact a particular address, or call a specific phone number:
- You will be told to make payments before you can collect your prize

#### **Red Flag**

- No lottery company will ask for advance payment from winners
- No genuine lottery will demand secrecy from winners
- If you have not entered for a lottery, you can't possibly be a winner

#### Recommendation

Ignore such dubious text messages or phone calls, and delete the unsolicited notification email



Spokesperson of the Commission, Wilson Uwujaren and Executive Chairman, Ibrahim Lamorde, at the formal launch of Red Alert on Scam

#### **DID YOU KNOW?**



The EFCC does not invite individuals to private offices for questioning. If you get an invitation to any private address aside from known EFCC offices or a police station in places where there are no designated EFCC offices, please be cautious. It may be a signal that you are about to be scammed.

#### Why?

On a daily basis many Nigerians fall victim of fraudsters who pretend to be EFCC operatives. The times demand that one has to ask questions and ascertain the authenticity of any invitation by law enforcement agencies. A recent incidence in Benue state revealed the menace of impostors masquerading as bonafide EFCC operatives. The case involves one **Chibuzor Ihediora**.

#### What was Ihediora's offence?

Ihediora frequented one Hotel De Venice, where he hangs out with friends. Unknown to him, he was being monitored by some fraudsters who decided to con him.

He had a habit of visiting porn sites, and had nude pictures of his girlfriend which he stored on his computer system. Unfortunately for him, "two officers of the EFCC, Detectives Lawal and Godfrey," apprehended him at the hotel, charged him with offences of wrongful use of the internet facility, infidelity and pornography. He was asked to accompany them to the "EFCC office" while they immediately confiscated his computer and internet modem.

Typically, Ihediora went on his knees begging the supposed officers; they agreed that he settles them with N500,000 or risk prosecution and the wrath of his wife whom they claimed they would inform of his lascivious habit if he failed to pay the agreed sum within a specified period.

Ihediora immediately set to work to They raise N500,000 to pay off the "EFCC court."



officers". He however warns his buddy, Ikenna, who shares the same dirty habits, to desist before he is nabbed. A more enlightened Ikenna expressly told his friend that it was impossible for the EFCC to arrest anyone for such crimes. After a lot of arguments, Ikenna puts a call through to a contact who works with the Department of State Services. The contact linked him to an "authentic" EFCC operative.

Eventually, Ikenna was able to convince his friend Ihediora that he was on the verge of falling *mugu* to some fraudsters.

#### Game up

The EFCC officer, Taju gained Ikenna and Ihediora's confidence and through their cooperation the Commission carried out a "sting" operation that led to the arrest of "Detectives Lawal and Godfrey".

They have already had their day in court.

#### To Avoid This Path

It is easy to avoid the ordeal of criminal entrapment. All it takes is a little circumspection.



Help us to help you.
Put a call through to any of our hot lines:

08093322644
08183322644
or simply send an email to info@efccnigeria.org
when you are not sure!

# **ANTI-GRAFT PARLIAMENT**

Join the conversation on a topical issue and have your say!

Should the EFCC retain part of monies recovered from corrupt individuals for its operation?

Salamatu Habu, Polycarp Saga and Anna Akuson sampled the views of members of the public.



#### John Akpe

"What is important is accountability and prudency in the management of the resources; if the percentage given to EFCC will be properly managed for the efficiency and effectiveness of the agency in fighting corruption then I think it is acceptable."



#### Tajudeen Kadiri

"EFCC has moral right to take certain percentage, although not as an inducement, but as an encouragement to help them pursue their mandate; but failure to do so, the money must be retrieved."



#### Joshua Etim-Uwe

"They can keep a percentage only if it will be used wisely, if not there is no point in keeping it. There should be accountability. I understand that everybody needs funds to run an organization."



#### **Ebele Grace Obi**

"If a percentage is to be given to the EFCC, it should strictly be for the running of the organization."



#### Nonye Ibe

"Yes, I believe they can keep a part of the money recovered because the cost of recovering the assets is expensive. They can keep a percentage and return the rest to government coffers."



#### Dr I. Emmanuel

"Immediately the assets of corrupt elements have been confiscated and forfeited, five percent should be set aside to run the EFCC so that the problem of waiting for funds from the government coffers will not arise. It will help in the smooth running of the EFCC."



#### **Patrick Nwedu**

"Nobody is to be trusted now, but if there can be accountability, then EFCC can keep a percentage. They should give assurance that due to the work they do, they can have some percentage."



#### **Olubodun Olugbenga Festus**

"It is about the law, if there is a provision through the Act of the parliament that they should take a percentage from whatever is being recovered - why not? But I hope it will not be another avenue for corruption"."



#### Okezie Chukwuemeka

"First of all, I need to ask, who finances EFCC? Is the package of EFCC not enough? Are they complaining? The question of keeping a percentage should not arise because it is their duty to recover and they have been paid for such job. Even if there budget has been cut, it does not call for them to demand for certain percentage of what they realize for the Federal Government. Why should they ask for a percentage? For what?"



#### **Madam Martha Omoloro**

"They should bring out everything and give it back to Nigerians. The youths are moving about unemployed. The money belongs to you and me, EFCC has no reason to keep any amount."



#### Comrade Noble C. Adaelu

"I think the duties of EFCC and other government agencies are clearly defined in our Constitution. If it is in the Constitution then so be it; but I have not seen anywhere in our law where assets have to be given to a different person other than being returned to government coffers. But if it is being advocated for, and Nigerians get a broader view of it, and the majority says EFCC can have a percentage then so be it. But for me, I say no to EFCC having a percentage."



#### Amana Anekwu

"No! EFCC is not supposed to have any percentage; it should go straight to Federation Account because it is Nigerian money. It does not belong to them but to Nigeria. The EFCC is being paid salaries from Federal Government account, so why should they have a percentage of recovered funds?"



#### Agada John

"I see no reason why EFCC should take any amount because we have budget which is allocated by the Federal Government to different parastatal or ministries. They should use the money given to them to finance their activities. My fear is when given that percentage, they might begin to arrest and prosecute people unjustly in order to generate funds to finance their organization."



#### Hassan Sadiq Jnr

"If EFCC can have a percentage, it will go a long way to help in the running of the organization. It is a way forward and I support it."

Join the conversation by sending your comments and pictures to <a href="mailto:alert@efccnigeria.org">alert@efccnigeria.org</a> (comments would be published in subsequent edition).

A staff of the EFCC, Hassan Saidu, receives accolade, as he emerges best student at the Advance Defence Intelligence Officers Course

#### BY **CHINONSO IGWE**

"Leaders aren't born they are made and they are made just like anything else, through hard work. And that's the price we'll have to pay to achieve that goal, or any goal." -Vince Lombardi

This saying applies to Hassan Saidu, a staff of the Economic and Financial Crimes Commission, EFCC, who emerged tops among participants from other law enforcement agencies in the Advance Defence Intelligence Officers Course, ADIOC.

Saidu was one of the participants in course 9/2015 comprising officers from agencies like the Nigeria Police Force, Independent Corrupt Practices and Other Related Offences Commission, Immigrations and Customs.

He proved his mettle during the course held in January 2015, when he outshined other participants in performance and leadership.

Saidu said, "The award is dedicated to EFCC and to the



### **WORTHY AMBASSADOR**

glory of God. I am overwhelmed. I will like to encourage other colleagues to continue to strive for the best in order to sustain the good image for which the Commission is known."

Organised by the Defence Intelligence College, Karu, Abuja, ADIOC is the premier intelligence course for law enforcement agencies, where officers are trained in intelligence gathering pertaining to national security.



FC Abuja, receives accolade despite losing to FRSC Abuja in this year's FA Challenge Cup final

BY **SEGUN ADEOYE** 



t was a thrilling end to a fascinating final. This year's FA Challenge Cup final between the EFCC's Football Club, FC Abuja and FRSC Abuja, at the Area 3 Stadium, Abuja, on April 5, 2015, brought memories of the 2012 Champions League final between Chelsea FC and Bayern Munich – a hotly contested match.

There were no dull moments. The boys of FC Abuja displayed great skills,

mesmerizing their opponents to the delight of the cheering spectators.

But goals, not skills, win matches in football. With neither side able to find the back of the net in regulation time, it came down to penalties to decide the contest. And FRSC Abuja won by four goals to two.

"We prepared very well even for penalties, but like you know, sometimes the best side loses in penalty shootouts,'

said Halilu Dauda, Chairman, FC Abuja. "In spite of the loss, the boys performed wonderfully, and even the opponents saluted their gallantry."

He added: "They are a crop of new players that we assembled only last year and they can rightly be described as the dream team; the future is bright."

To watch the team celebrate their silverware, visit - http://bit.ly/1yg0V3G

# **WORKING PARTNERSHIP**

The Nigerian Copyright Commission seeks EFCC's help in the enforcement of copyright laws

#### BY **PROGRESS BENNETH**

he Zonal Coordinator, Nigerian Copyright Commission, NCC, Enugu, Mrs N.C. Okeke, believes that partnership with the EFCC is paramount in the war against copyright offenders.

Okeke, who led a delegation to the EFCC's zonal office in Enugu, on March 31, 2015, asserted that collaboration between EFCC and NCC was essential for the fight against piracy in the country.

"We're soliciting the Commission's cooperation in the area of intelligence gathering, information sharing and operational support," she said.

The EFCC's Head of Operations for the zone, Mr. David Iloyanomon, while receiving Okeke and her team, acknowledged the Memorandum of Understanding between NCC and EFCC signed on April 18, 2013. "We will continue to partner in fashioning out modalities to rid the society of copyright infringements, economic and financial crimes," he assured.



# **WOMAN POWER**

Nigerian women are challenged to take active role in ridding the country of economic and financial crimes

#### BY **SEGUN ADEOYE**

A call has gone out to women not to limit their strength and nation-building roles to the four corners of their homes, but to

become active participants in the war against corruption.

Chairman of the EFCC, Ibrahim Lamorde, made the call at a one-day sensitization workshop organized by the anti-graft agency, for women, civil society and community-based groups, in collaboration with the African Centre for Media and Information Literacy, AFRICMIL, in Ibadan, Oyo State, on March 24, 2015.

Lamorde, who was represented by the Director, Internal Affairs Department, Mr. Wakili

Mohammed, said, "The power to liberate our nation as one blighted by deep-rooted corruption, lies in the hands of women."

Director, Association for the Advancement of Womanhood, Dr (Mrs) Kemi Wale-Olaitan, said, "Women should be

considered and empowered to nurture the coming generations on the importance of anti-crime crusades, for a better today and a stronger tomorrow, for changed adults and passionate youth."

While calling for partnership with the EFCC, President, Breast Cancer Association of Nigeria, Betty Akeredolu, challenged women to be change agents in the fight against corruption.

Head, Enlightenment and Reorientation Unit, EFCC, Aisha Larai Musa, further encouraged

women to get acquainted with the activities of the EFCC in order to be able to partner effectively with it, in the fight against corruption.



L - R: President, Breast Cancer Association of Nigeria, Mrs Betty Akeredolu, Head, Enlightenment and Re-orientation Unit, Aisha Larai Musa and the representative of EFCC Chairman, Mr. Wakili Mohammed at the event.

# **AN ARTFUL DODGER**

Former governor of Enugu State, Chimaroke Nnamani, being prosecuted by the EFCC for N5bn fraud, shies away from appearing in court citing ill-health, yet engages in rigorous campaign to get into the Senate

#### BY **SEGUN ADEOYE**

his former aide, Sunday Anyaogu, and six companies in which he had interests, but his trial has over the past eight years been stalled, owing largely to Nnamani's "ill-health".

He claimed to have suffered complication after undergoing a quadruple open heart by-pass.

Indeed, at his June 17, 2014 trial in court, a morose Nnamani clasped his hand on his chest throughout.

Yet, earlier in the year, his supporters had celebrated his "triumphant" re-entry into politics, as Nnamani revved up his political machinery bidding for a return to the Senate.

Nnamani, in fact, contested in the March 28, 2015 election, seeking to represent Enugu East Senatorial Zone, and declared himself winner in controversial circumstances.

His medical condition didn't count when the Green Chambers was at stake. What a country!



e is expectedly a highly skilled medical doctor by training, and also a well-respected writer, noted for his popular Ebeano column; but former governor of Enugu State, Chimaroke Nnamani, seems to have added yet another skill to his list of competences - an active dodger.

In 2007 the EFCC beamed its searchlight on Nnamani,

# **LOVE PAINS**

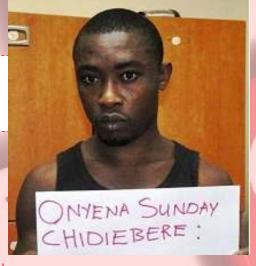
The EFCC continues to rid the society of love scammers who daily device means to rob foreigners of their hard-earned money

#### BY **CHIDIMMA AMANAMBU**

For internet fraudsters and the EFCC it has become a matter of no retreat no surrender as the Commission almost on a weekly basis apprehends love scammers prowling the internet and impoverishing love seekers.

Sunday Onyena Chidiebere, 27, from Imo State was arrested by the Commission in Abuja March 26, 2015, for allegedly defrauding a 70-year-old German, Marie, to the tune of €14,250.

Chidiebere, an Abuja-based promoter and events manager, allegedly met the victim on one of the social media platforms in 2011 and developed a romantic relationship with her.



Marie's dream of re-igniting her love life with Chidiebere was dashed after wiring thousands of Euros, supposedly in visa processing fees, to enable him visit her in Germany.

When it dawned on Marie that she had been scammed, she petitioned the EFCC. Chidiebere who has been caught, will be arraigned soon.

Already facing the music is

arraigned by the Commission on Monday, March 23, 2015 before Justice D.V Agishir of the Federal High Court sitting in Enugu on a 12count charge bordering on cyber crime, obtaining money by false pretence and impersonation.

Chukwudi who posed as a "British national" with the false name of "Barry Bernard", is being prosecuted for duping one Donnalynn, a Canadian, whom he met on yet another dating site.

"Barry" who claimed to be resident in Manchester, United Kingdom, gained Donnalynn's confidence as the relationship grew, and sent several love mails and pictures to her. And finally, as scammers end up doing, he requested for \$26,520 Canadian dollars from her to enable him join her.

She petitioned the EFCC after she found out that she had been duped.

The Commission has arrested Nwakanma C. Chukwudi. He was Chukwudi who is currently facing trial.

EFCCALERT! 11

