

# EFCC EFCC ALERT!

# **FACES OF 2019**









From securing conviction of a former governor, to recovering billions of naira for Federal Government, the EFCC's anti-corruption campaign took a new dimension in 2019











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The Economic and Financial Crimes Commission, rallies governors, public office holders, civil society groups, co-law enforcement agencies across Nigeria to mark International Anti-Corruption Day

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## Milestones of 2019

From securing conviction of a former governor, to recovering billions of naira for Federal Government, the EFCC's anti-corruption campaign took a new dimension in 2019

t is, undoubtedly, an eventful and remarkable year for the Economic and Financial Crimes Commission, EFCC. What with securing final forfeitures of hundreds of billions of naira, millions of dollars and other

foreign currencies, a record 1,070 convictions as at November 2019 and still counting, including high profile cases. The record is up from 315 in 2018; 189 in 2017; 194 in 2016 and 103 in 2015.

Perhaps, more significant, is the fact that this year's record of convictions also includes that of a former state governor, and prominent public servants, among others.

Below is a focus on some of the milestones:

#### SHINING STARS



Magu: "Special African Anti-corruption Crusader"



- The EFCC efforts in leading the fight against corruption in Africa, received recognition by the African Union Economic, Social and Cultural Council, which on November 5, 2019 awarded its chairman, Ibrahim Magu, with the award of "Special African Anti-Corruption Crusader" the first of its kind on the continent.
- Management, SEM Award, the EFCC Lagos Office, was honoured as the best zone of the anti-graft agency in fighting cybercrime. The organizers noted that the recognition was in cognizance of the zone's remarkable feat in apprehending suspects on the wanted list of the United States Federal Bureau of Investigation, and for contributing significantly to the over 200 cybercrime- related arrests recorded by the EFCC in October 2019. The llorin and Port Harcourt offices of the agency were also nominated for the award.

EFCC spokesperson, Wilson Uwujaren was on hand to receive the award on behalf of Magu. Mohammed Usman Shuwa, head of the panel of jury, said the award was in recognition of those making or have made sacrifices for the peace, security and good governance of Nigeria.



#### **ORJI UZOR KALU**

After a trial that began in 2007, a former governor of Abia State, Orji Uzor Kalu and serving Senator, was convicted and sentenced by Justice Mohammed Idris of a Federal High Court, Lagos, to 12years in prison for an amended 39-count charge involving N7.65billion fraud.

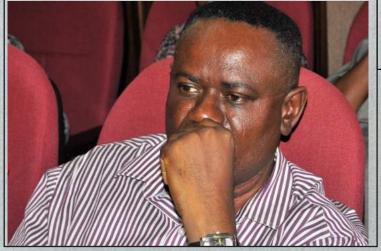
The court held that the prosecution led by Rotimi Jacobs, SAN, proved its case beyond every reasonable doubt that Kalu, conspired with his Director of Finance and Accounts, Udeh Udeogu, to defraud the state of N7.65billion through a private company, Slok Nigeria Limited.

They had pleaded "not guilty" to the charges, but after listening to 19 witnesses presented by the prosecution, with several documents, the curtain finally fell on the decade long trial as he was found guilty and sentenced to jail.

#### **TONY OMENYI**

The retired Air Vice Marshal was charged to court by the EFCC for offences bordering on abuse of office and money laundering to the tune of N136,325,000 alongside his company, Huzee Nigeria Limited.

After a trial that began on November 11, 2016 Justice Nnamdi Dimgba of the Federal High Court, Abuja, found him guilty on February 28, 2019 and sentenced him to seven years in prison on the three counts preferred against him, to run concurrently.



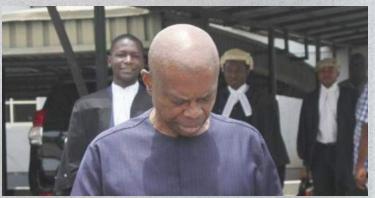
#### **CALISTUS OBI**

The former acting Director General of the Nigeria Maritime Administration and Safety Agency, NIMASA, was on May 23, 2019 found guilty of counts five, six, seven and eight of the eight-count charge preferred against him by the EFCC bordering on conspiracy, conversion and money laundering to the tune of N136 million. Justice Mojisola Olatoregun of the Federal High Court, Ikoyi, convicted him alongside Alu Dimas.



#### **CLEMENT ILOH**

Barely two years to the commencement of his trial, October 3, 2017 the former Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Labour and Productivity, was on October 16, 2019 found guilty of embezzling N14,176,000, funds meant for the Nigerian Maritime Administration and Safety Agency. Justice Oluwatoyin Taiwo of a Lagos State High Court, Ikeja sentenced him to five years in prison on counts one and two, and discharged him of count three, without an option of fine.



#### **IBRAHIM UMAR and SAHABO IYA-HAMMAN**

Mohammed, an electoral officer, Yola South Local Government Area, Adamawa State, and Iya- Hamman, a retired staff of the Independent National Electoral Commission, INEC, were on December 12, 2019 convicted by Justice Nathan Musa of an Adamawa State High Court, Yola, on a three-count charge involving a N362million fraud. Mohammed and Iya-Hamman, who was also the Adamawa State coordinator of the West African Network of Election

Observers during that 2015 presidential election, were lined to the \$115million largesse deployed by a former minister of petroleum resources, Diezani Alison-Madueke, to influence the outcome of the elections in the state.

They were sentenced to seven years in prison on each of the counts, with the sentences to run concurrently.



#### **CHRISTIAN NWOSU and TIJANI INDA-BASHIR**

Both former staff of the Independent National Electoral Commission, INEC, were charged to court by the EFCC for a N264,880,000 fraud, before Justice Idris of the Federal High Court sitting in Ikovi, Lagos.

They were found guilty as charged on January 24, 2019 and later bagged jail terms.

While Nwosu was sentenced to seven years in prison, Inda-Bashir was sentenced to eight years in jail.



#### **INVESTIGATIVE BREAKTHROUGHS**

#### PROCESS AND INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT LIMITED

Following the \$9.6billion judgment against the Nigerian government in favour of a two-man United Kingdom, UK-based company, Process and Industrial Development Limited, P&ID, the EFCC stepped into the investigation of actors and players, home and abroad, involved in the botched oil and gas contract. Heads have not stopped rolling since the investigations commenced on September 19, 2019 the conviction of Mohammed Kuchazi, commercial director of P&ID Nigeria, and company director of Process, Adamu Usman, for their involvement in the botched gas contract, which from all intents and purposes, seemed designed to fail.

They pleaded "guilty" to 11 counts bordering on obtaining by false pretence, dealing in petroleum products without appropriate licence; money laundering and failure to register P& ID with the Special Control





Unit against Money Laundering as required by law, amounting to economic sabotage against the Nigerian state.

Based on their guilty plea, Justice I. Ekwo of the Federal High Court, Abuja, found them guilty and ordered the winding up in Nigeria properties traced to the country, and that they should be forfeited to the Federal Government.

Grace Taiga, an oil industry magnate, and former director, Legal Services, Ministry of Petroleum Resources, and a Briton, James Nolan, are currently standing trial for the complicit roles in the failed contract.

#### ABDULRASHEED MAINA and son, FAISAL

After evading arrest for more than four years, the investigations of the EFCC into the fraudulent activities of the Pension Reform Task Team, headed by Maina, finally yielded fruits in October, when the EFCC took him into custody following his arrest. He was also arrested along with his son, Faisal, with whom he is standing trial on different charges before Justice Okon Abang of a Federal High Court, Abuja. Maina is facing a 12-count charge, bordering on operating fictitious bank accounts, fraud and money laundering, while Faisal is standing trial on three-counts of money laundering, corruption and false asset declaration.



#### MOHAMMED ADOKE and the Malabu Oil Fraud

After years of investigations and partnership with foreign law enforcement agencies, the EFCC while intensifying its effort in prosecuting the Nigerian end of the Malabu oil fraud trial, welcomed the arrest of Adoke on November 18, 2019 by INTERPOL in Dubai, the United Arab Emirates, following years of his evading arrest. He is expected to face trial before Justice D.Z. Senchi of a Federal Capital Territory High Court, Jabi, along with Dan Etete, a former Minister of Petroleum, for their roles in the Malabu oil fraud.



#### MIND-BLOWING RECOVERIES

Like in past years, the EFCC in 2019 secured mind-blowing recoveries.



Perhaps, the most significant was the sums of \$8,435,788.84 and N9,185,324,325.57 – traced by the EFCC to Patience, wife of former President Goodluck Jonathan, which were ordered forfeited finally to the Federal Government, by Justice Mojisola Olatoregun of a Federal High Court, Ikoyi, Lagos.

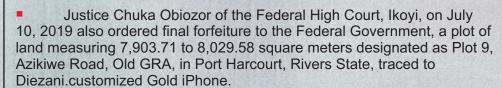
The monies were lodged in seven banks – First Bank of Nigeria, \$3,645,013.73; Skye Bank (now Polaris Bank), \$4,790,775.11; Fidelity Bank, N6,420,320,989.36; Ecobank, N1,311,953,648.22; Diamond Bank (now Access Bank), N276,728,247.18; Zenith Bank, N858,923,982.55; and Stanbic-IBTC, N317,397,458.26.

Justice Nicholas Oweibo, of the Federal High Court, Ikoyi, Lagos on September 10, 2019 ordered the final forfeiture of trinket boxes of jewellery and wristwatches – gold, silver and diamond, recovered by the EFCC on October 2, 2015, in their pristine glories, worth about \$40million from her mansion at Frederick Chiluba Street, Asokoro, an





affluent suburb in Abuja. The items include: 419 bangles; 315 rings; 304 earrings; 267 necklaces; 189 wristwatches; 174 necklace and earrings; 78 bracelet; 77 brooches; 74 pendants etc.





The EFCC also on June 28, 2019 secured the final forfeiture of N49million contained in five 150kg sacks intercepted by operatives of the EFCC at the Kaduna International Airport, on March 14, 2017 to the Federal Government. The EFCC had after the interception of the money, approached Justice S.M. Shuaibu of the Federal High Court, Kaduna, for an order of interim forfeiture, which was granted, before its final forfeiture after two years.



The EFCC also secured the final forfeiture of Asmau Plaza, located at University Road, Tanke Area, Ilorin, Kwara State, which was traced to Rasaq Momonu, Controller, Finance and Account, Kwara State Government House, being proceeds of fraudulent financial transactions.





### **Zero Tolerance for Corruption**



he ninth day of December has since the passage of the United **Nations Convention Against** Corruption, UNCAC, on October 31, 2002 been observed as the UN's International Anti-Corruption Day. As a critical stakeholder in the fight against corruption in Nigeria, the **Economic and Financial Crimes** Commission, EFCC, has played a key role in this regard as it once again on Monday, December 9, 2019 rallied Nigerians from all walks of life, to mark this year's Anti-Corruption Day. The Day was commemorated across the zonal offices of the EFCC in Nigeria - Abuja, the Federal Capital Territory; Uyo, Akwa Ibom State; Makurdi, Benue State; Maiduguri, Borno State; Benin-City, Edo State;

Enugu, Enugu State; Gombe, Gombe State; Kaduna, Kaduna State: Kano, Kano State: Ilorin, Kwara State; Ikoyi, Lagos State; Ibadan, Oyo State; Port Harcourt, Rivers State, and Sokoto, Sokoto State, with a walk against corruption. The climax was a one-day anticorruption summit, organized by the EFCC in partnership with the Nigeria Shippers' Council, NSC, held at the State House Banquet Hall, Abuja. Present were Minister of Police Affairs, Muhammad Maigari, who represented President Muhammadu Buhari; Minister of the FCT, Bello Muhammad; Minister of Youth and Sports, Sunday Dare; Minister of Communications, Isa Pantami; Director General, Nigerian Maritime

Administration and Safety Agency, NIMASA, Dakuku Peterside; former Chairman, House of Reps Committee on Drugs, Narcotics and Financial Crimes, Kayode Oladele; Resident Coordinator of the UN, Edward Callum, representing the UN Secretary General, Antonio Gutteres; a former Chairman, Independent National Electoral Commission, Prof. Attahiru Jega; Chairman, Nigerian Diaspora Commission, Abike Dabiri-Erewa; Secretary, Presidential Advisory Committee Against Corruption, Prof. Sadiq Radda; Minister of State for Transportation, Sen. Gbemisola Saraki; acting EFCC Chairman, Ibrahim Magu; Secretary to the EFCC, Ola Olukoyede, among other dignitaries. Below are images from the Summit:

#### Zero Tolerance for Corruption









Soyinka: "There is the imperative of the open society if we are serious about fighting corruption and the necessity to involve the younger generation." Callum: "Corruption threatens the health of the society; we must kill it in Nigeria. I urge people everywhere to come together to end corruption."







Maigari: "The cardinal objective of this government is to wage a vigorous war against corruption; a war we are committed to not just fight, but also to win decisively."



Jega: Calls on the EFCC not to relent in its fight against corruption



against corruption."



#### **BENIN-CITY, EDO STATE**

The Benin Zonal Office of the EFCC commemorated this year's Anti-Corruption Day with officers of the Federal Road Safety Corps, the Nigerian Drug Law Enforcement Agency, the Nigeria Police Force, Nigeria Immigration Service, the Nigerian Security and Civil Defence Corps, the Department of State Service, participating in a walk against corruption.

Other participants included, member of the Edo Civil Society Organization, the Nigerian Bar Association, the Christian Association of Nigeria, the Muslim Society of Nigeria, Traders Welfare Union of Nigeria, and the Nigerian Union of Journalists.



The anti-corruption walk in Enugu afforded the EFCC the opportunity to rally citizens in the South-East against corruption.

#### **GOMBE, GOMBE STATE**

The walk against corruption, which began from the zonal office at the new GRA, ended at the Pantami Stadium where lectures were delivered by various speakers. The state governor, Muhammad Yahawa, expressed sadness over the recent report of the National Bureau of Statistics which ranked the state among those with high rate of corruption, and declared his readiness to join hands with the EFCC in the anti-corruption fight.

#### **IBADAN, OYO STATE**

The Oyo State governor, Seyi Makinde joined the EFCC in Ibadan, the state capital to embark on a road walk against corruption. Accompanied by the Secretary to the State Government, Mrs. Olubamiwo Adeosun; Deputy Chief of Staff, Mojeed Mogbojubola, and other top government functionaries, he used the occasion to charge the citizens to join in the fight against corruption. "The fight against corruption is a duty in which all citizens must partake to secure better life and good governance," he said. "No meaningful





Cross-section of participants in Benin





Rallying Nigerians in Enugu against corruption





Leading the charge against corruption in Gombe





Makinde joins EFCC in Ibadan to call for Citizens' partnership against corruption

development can take place in a society that fails to curb corruption."

#### **ILORIN, KWARA STATE**

Joining the EFCC to commemorate the Anti-Corruption Day in Ilorin, the state capital, was the state governor, Abdulrahman Abdulrasaq; his deputy, Kayode Alabi, and the Speaker, House of Assembly, Salihu Danladi. The governor acknowledged the role of the EFCC in assisting the state to recover monies stolen from the state, and for helping to curb corrupt practices in the state.

#### **KADUNA, KADUNA STATE**

There was a massive turnout as the EFCC rallied citizens of Kaduna to mark this year's Anti-Corruption Day.

#### KANO, KANO STATE

Several banners with messages against corruption adorned the roads as the EFCC held proceedings in Kano to mark this year's Anti-Corruption Day, with popular Hausa actor, Baba Ari, joining the EFCC for the event.

#### **IKOYI. LAGOS STATE**

Managing director, Nigerian Ports Authority, Hadiza Bala- Usman, who was part of the event, urged Nigerians to join hands with the EFCC to stamp out corruption in the society.

Bala-Usman said: "We believe our synergy with the EFCC is important.

"We believe that all sectors and indeed, the maritime sector, should answer the call to get rid of corrupt practices from the country."

Chairman, Steering Committee, Movement Against Corruption, and President, Women Arise, Dr. Joe Okei-Odumakin, said: "Today, we





Walking against corruption in Ilorin





Staff of the EFCC raise awareness against corruption in Kaduna





Kano stands still to mark anti -corruption day





Odumakin, Bala-Usman join EFCC to campaign against corruption





Massive turnout against corruption in Lagos

stand in unison to say that corruption cannot be fought by only one single organization, EFCC. We must all unite to end corruption, which is cancerous and ravaging us."

#### **MAKURDI. BENUE STATE**

It was a colorful parade to mark the anti-corruption day in Makurdi, as officers of the EFCC along with other stakeholders in the state walked across the city to sensitize the citizens against corruption.

#### MAIDUGURI, BORNO STATE

The deputy governor of Borno, Usman Kadafur, who stood in for the state governor, Prof. Babagana Zulum, joined the EFCC to commemorate the Day, which was commemorated at the Ramat Square Maiduguri, the state capital. Joined in the day's event, which included a walk against corruption, were members of the security agencies in the state, civil society organizations, and labour unions.

#### **UYO, AKWA IBOM STATE**

The EFCC rallied stakeholders in the state to mark this year's Anti-Corruption Day, with the rallying point being the zonal office of the EFCC located at Ewet Housing, off Edet Akpan Avenue.

#### PORT HARCOURT, RIVERS STATE

The Rivers State governor, Nyeson Wike, who joined the EFCC, to commemorate the Day, expressed readiness of his government to support the anti-corruption efforts of the EFCC.

Addressing participants at the Mile One Market area, he said: "We will support the EFCC to fight corruption within the ambit of the law. We stand with the EFCC on the fight against corruption and whatever it takes to support them, we will do."





Walking against corruption in Makurdi





Zulum joins EFCC in Maiduguri for anti-corruption day





On the streets of Uyo





Wike joins EFCC for anti-corruption day





EFCC paints Rivers red for anti-corruption day

### EFCC will get you, anywhere, anytime.





**Economic and Financial Crimes Commission** 

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