



# EFCCALERT!





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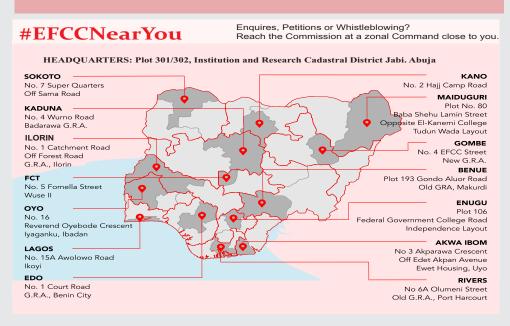
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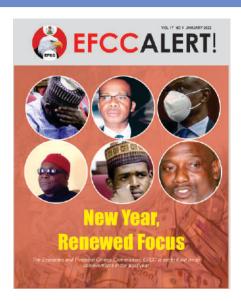


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## Mail

### Re: New Year, Renewed Focus... We Move, January 2022 Edition



### Kudos!

Taking stock of the achievements of the past year are very much in order. The celebrated conviction of high profile citizens featured in the edition is perhaps also worth celebrating. The truth is that many of other high profile cases, particularly the ones involving former governors are still languishing in various courts across the country. So much work still needs to be done. - Musa Hussein

### Great job!

I refer to the report, Orya Magic, published in the January 2022 edition. While it is an accepted concept in the Nigerian judiciary that an accused is deemed innocent until proven otherwise, I strongly support the EFCC's efforts to investigate the tenure of Roberts Orya, the former managing director of the Nigerian Export-Import, NEXIM Bank. Many of such agencies are enmeshed in corruption right at the top. I also hope that the NDDC probe will also be given accelerated action. - Saheed Bolarinto

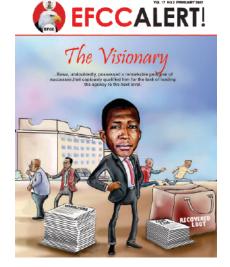
### Great job!

I must commend the incumbent leadership of the EFCC for the various achievements achieved in the past year. The record-breaking conviction result is worth the celebration given in the edition. However, what prompts my curiosity is why and what accounted for the significant jump to 2,220 convictions from one thousand plus. I hope there's no manipulation somewhere, like they used to do back then at the stock market. - Tony Akorede

### Well done!

It is refreshing to observe that the EFCC has continued to remain focused on the legacy set by its founding leaders. I, however, suggest that as a law enforcement agency, you should do less of talking and showmanship, and continue with more of working. - **Chinedu Adanma** 

### Re: The Visionary, February 2022 Edition



### Great job!

I must commend your media team for the worthy effort of documenting, for posterity and generations unborn, the

strides that the Commission is achieving. Indeed, if you don't take the conscientious effort to write your history by yourself, some other persons will do, and it may just be thwarted. Keep up the good job. - **Olufemi Adigun** 

### Great job!

If the report in the February edition is anything to go by, then it is fair enough to say that Abdulrasheed Bawa has done a great job in his one year in office, especially infusing technology into the investigative arm of the Commission. The Eagle Eye App is definitely a laudable achievement. And so I join my voice in commending him and all the personnel of the EFCC. But, he should be reminded that the journey is still far; it is not how a person starts that matters, but how he ends. - **Dubem** 

### Great job!

I strongly believe that while it is in order to showcase your achievements, the jury is still out, as to whether the agency is genuinely advancing the course of the fight against corruption or not. In a nutshell, let others praise you, don't praise yourself. - Yakubu Daudu

### Great job!

I refer to "Throwback Photo" published in the February 2022 edition. Indeed, a photo says a thousand words, depending on what you see. Interesting to note that the photo was taken two years before Bawa's appointment as EFCC Chairman. I wonder if President Buhari himself remembers the photo or took notice of the young man. And, is that not Ibrahim Magu at a corner of the photo? Indeed, no one knows tomorrow. - Faisal Hameed



## EFCC: Waxing Stronger at 19

Nineteen years on, the EFCC continues to set the pace for law enforcement agencies, as it raises the bar in conviction records, assets recovered from the corrupt, and corruption-prevention strategies

By Segun Adeoye

"Yes, we have a young organisation; young officers that are determined to do the right thing. But the experience that we have is so huge... We have shown that we are up to the task, and we will continue to do our bit."

ords of assertion, commitment and promise from Abdulrasheed Bawa, the Executive Chairman of the Economic and Financial Crimes Commission, EFCC during one of his numerous engagements, in which he took time to address a question on being a "young man" leading the affairs of the Economic and Financial Crimes Commission, EFCC.

Commission, EFCC. Indeed, like a mustard seed sowed on fertile ground, the Economic and Financial Crimes Commission, EFCC, established on April 3, 2003, has undoubtedly, over the past 19 years, grown in posture and stature to an Iroko tree, providing succour, solace and protection to the victims of corrupt persons (within and outside of the

shores of Nigeria), who run to it to for help.

Not many gave the EFCC the slimmest of chances to thrive and succeed. However, 19 years on, the record of achievements are as glaring as the sunlight, even as the anti-graft agency remains a reference point for excellence and a beacon of hope, wiping tears from the eyes of the victims of financial crimes, home and abroad

"No agency of government has contributed to the development of law in Nigeria in the last 10 years than the EFCC," says Bawa. "We are all over the place trying to see that we eradicate economic and financial crimes through the court processes and other preventive measures that we have [put] in place." Far back in 2005, the EFCC had positioned itself as a pacesetter, when under the chairmanship of Mallam Nuhu Ribadu, it secured its first major conviction, that of Emmanuel Nwude, who in connivance with Amaka Anajemba, Emmanuel Ofolue, Nzeribe Okoli, and Obum Osakwe, defrauded a Brazilian bank in Sao Paulo, in a \$242

million heist.

Banco Noroeste, to invest in a phantom project purportedly for the construction of a new airport in Abuja, in exchange of a \$10 million commission. Record has it that a sister agency had earlier investigated the alleged 419 (Nigeria's code for advance fee fraud) case without making any headway. But when the EFCC stepped in, it was game up for the culprits. The achievement sent shock waves around the globe as the world began to take notice of the EFCC. In spite of this, a few doubting Thomas's, thought it was merely going to be a flash in the pan; but how wrong they have been, as the anti-graft agency has continued to blaze the trail, enforcing its mantra that: "EFCC will get you [the fraudster] anywhere, anytime". The EFCC was also instrumental to the removal of Nigeria from the Financial Action Task Forces' list of Non-Cooperative Countries and Territories. From pioneer Chair, Ribadu, 61 (2003 -

They had succeeded in deceiving

Nelson Sakagushi, a Director of Brazil's

2007), to Farida Waziri, 72 (2008 - 2011), to Ibrahim Lamorde, 59 (2007, acting capacity; 2011 - 2015), to Ibrahim Magu, 60 (acting capacity 2015 - 2020), to Mohammed Umar (acting capacity 2020 - 2021), to the incumbent Chairman, Bawa, 42, the EFCC has remained focused, unwavering and unrelenting in ensuring that it continues to champion the anti-corruption crusade in Nigeria. Below are milestones that characterize the agency's existence and impact in the last 19 years:

### CONVICTIONS

Under the Eagle eyes of the EFCC, hitherto no-go areas have been demystified, with persons who tag themselves as the untouchables, posing as the high-and-mighty, have been made to account for their alleged financial misdeeds.

The EFCC has smoked out not a few fraudsters from their hideouts, and secured their conviction.

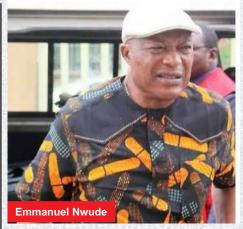
Along with the Nwudes, there is the case of Maurice Ibekwe who defrauded a German of \$300,000 in 1992. Ibekwe, who later used the proceeds of his illicitly obtained funds to secure a seat in the National Assembly, later lost his life in jail. Harry Odiawa, who defrauded George Blick, an American of over N3 billion was also prosecuted and convicted. There was also the sorry case of the then Inspector-General of Police, Tafa Balogun, who at the time was Ribadu's boss. He was convicted for over N7billion fraud, which he was made to return as part of a plea bargain. He has an ally in the person of the then governor of Bayelsa State, Diepreye Alamieyeseigha, who was also convicted for defrauding his state but later received presidential pardon. The case of Kingsley Ikpe, a Harvardtrained investor and managing director, Thomas Kingsley Securities Limited, who in 2005 was involved in a N135 million fraud also made headlines. He was rounded up from his hiding and prosecuted by the EFCC, which secured his conviction before a Lagos State High Court. He was sentenced to 151 years in prison for the 43 counts of conspiracy, stealing, forgery and alteration brought against him by the EFCC. On the international stage, the EFCC

has brought succour to many a victim

Worth mentioning is the 2005 case of

of the Nigerian Prince scam, fondly

referred to yahoo yahoo.







"is anchored on five objectives of increased public engagement, improved systems and processes, intelligence driven investigation, prosecution and assets recovery, improved law enforcement coordination and collaboration and enhanced institutional and human capacity development".

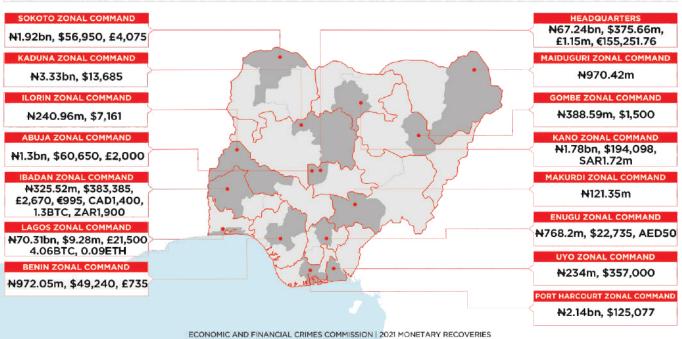


Juliana Ching, then an 86-year-old Hong Kong citizen, for whom \$4.48million stolen from her was recovered from Basil Nkenchor, who impersonated Ibrahim Abba, then Group Managing Director of the Nigerian National Petroleum Corporation, to dupe her in a purported contract scam.

The record of convictions for the EFCC has been on an upward swing, since its inception, so far climaxing with a ceiling breaking record of 2,220 convictions for the year 2022.

With hindsight, the EFCC secured 976 convictions in 2020; 1,280 in 2019, and 314 in 2018. Going memory lane, it was a humble beginning of 68 convictions in 2010 and 67 recorded in 2011. The Commission then revved it up to 87, 117 and 126, in 2012, 2013 and 2014 respectively. There was a drop in 2015, with 103 convictions secured. However, 2016 witnessed an improved showing, with 194 convictions. Yet another drop was witnessed in 2017 as it fell short by five, to stay at 189 convictions. But, in all ramifications, the 2021 record of 2,220 can well be described as "a significant upsurge", which has no doubt placed the EFCC on a pedestal of a pacesetter. This also reflects in the mind-boggling sums of N152,088,698,751.64; \$386,220,202.84; £1,182,519.75; €156,246.76; 1,723,310.00 Saudi Riyal; 1.900.00 South African Rand, and 1,400.00 Canadian Dollars recovered from the corrupt in the society. More significant, perhaps, are the high profile convictions including the recently pardoned former state governors, Joshua Dariye and Jolly Nyame, of

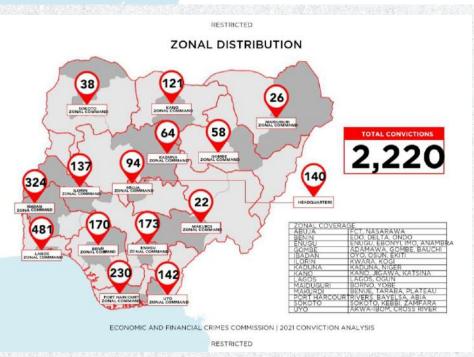
TOTAL MONETARY RECOVERIES				
NGN (N) NIGERIAN NAIRA	152,088,698,751.64	USD (\$) UNITED STATES DOLLAR	386,220,202.85 156,246.76	
GBP (£) BRITISH POUND STERLING	1,182,519.75	EUR (€)		
AED () EMIRATI DIRHAM	50.00	CAD (\$)		1,400.00
SAR (ر.س)	1,723,310.00	DIGITAL	BTC	5.36957319
ZAR (RAND) SOUTH AFRICAN RAND	1,900.00	CURRENCY	ETH ETHEREUM	0.09012



Plateau and Taraba, respectively; Tony Omenyi, an ex-Air Force Chief; Okey Nwosu, a former Managing Director, MD of Finbank; Francis Atuche, Ex-MD defunct BankPHB; Jerry Ogbonna, Ex-Navy Captain; Abdulrasheed Maina, Ex-Chairman, Pension Reform Task Team and his son, Faisal.

A former governor of Abia State, Orji Uzor Kalu, who had his 2019 conviction voided by the Supreme Court, is expected back in Court soon, as the Apex Court ordered his retrial on the ground that the Federal High Court Judge in Ikoyi, Lagos who convicted him, had been elevated to the Court of Appeal at the time of convicting and sentencing him to 12 years in prison. Suffice to add that Kalu had already begun serving his sentence before the Supreme Court's ruling, and even had his post-conviction bail request dismissed by a Federal High Court in Ikovi, Lagos.

Across the spectrum of the Oil Subsidy Fraud, Pension Scam, Internet Fraud, Money Laundering, Bank Fraud, along with other emerging financial crimes, the EFCC has continued to ensure that the long arm of the law, catches up with all fraud perpetrators.



#### **LOOKING FORWARD**

Institutionalising the EFCC has been at the front burner for the leadership of the "new EFCC".

On September 29, 2021, the Bawa-led EFCC unveiled the Commission's

Strategic Plan (2021-2025) targeted at improving the performance of the Commission for future successes. The Plan is in line with the National Anti-Corruption Strategy (NACS) 2017 – 2021 and anchored on five pillars -



"Effective
implementation of this
Plan shall improve
operational efficiency
in the Commission and
ensure that we
continue to aspire to
our vision of a Nigeria
free of economic and
financial crimes,"
Bawa says.

Prevention, Public Engagement, Ethical Re-Orientation, Enforcement and Sanctions, Recovery and Management of Proceeds of Crime. It is aimed at sustaining the EFCC's commitment to continuous improvement to attain its vision.

"Effective implementation of this Plan shall improve operational efficiency in the Commission and ensure that we continue to aspire to our vision of a Nigeria free of economic and financial crimes," Bawa says.

In building on the Strategic Plan, the EFCC on March 25 2022 unveiled several documents aimed at standardizing and institutionalizing its fight against corruption.

The auspicious event, which was witnessed by President Muhammadu Buhari reinforced the resolve of the anti-corruption agency, to institutionalize its operations. Describing the unveiling of the 26 Standard Operating Procedures, and 25 Policies and Manuals of the Commission at the State House, as a fulfillment of the pledge he made at his screening before the National Assembly in February 2021, aimed at stanadardizing its operations and discouraging unbridled discretion in the workplace, Bawa noted that with the Policies and Manuals, now a public document, "the Commission now boasts of a unique DNA, as all personnel know what is expected of them per time".

According to him, the Policies and Manuals were in tandem with the strategic vision of the Commission as contained in the EFCC Strategic Plan (2021 -2025).

The Plan, he says, "is anchored on five objectives of increased public engagement, improved systems and processes, intelligence driven



investigation, prosecution and assets recovery, improved law enforcement coordination and collaboration and enhanced institutional and human capacity development".

### RECOGNITION, COLLABORATIONS AND LAURELS

In recognition of the leadership role being played by the EFCC in Nigeria, members of the Network of National Anti-Corruption Institutions in West Africa, NACIWA – body tasked with increasing capacity to combat corruption within national anti-corruption institutions in the 16-nation organization, elected the EFCC Chair, Abdulrasheed Bawa as its new President, March 21, 2022 at a modest gathering to mark the 5th Annual General Assembly of NACIWA, held in Abuja, March 21-22, 2022.

Bawa took over from Francis Ben Kaifala, who led the organisation in the last three years.

The EFCC had on September 28, 2015 made history, when its Academy in Karu, Abuja, hosted the first-ever training programme of NACIWA, which was newly created that year. The EFCC's influence on the world stage has made it the first port of call in Nigeria for more and more foreign law enforcement agencies associating with the war against corruption. Noteworthy, is partnership with the International Police, INTERPOL and the UK government, which eventually saw former governor of Delta State, James Ibori, facing justice, as well as other key players in the Malabu Oil scandal. Laurels have also become somewhat of a pasttime for the EFCC.

The EFCC in 2016 was adjudged the "Most Effective Government Agency" at the 20th edition of the Awards for Excellence of City People Magazine.

The United Nations Office on



Drugs and Crime, UNODC, in 2017 recognized and adjudged the EFCC as the Most Effective Government Agency in Nigeria. The recognition followed a painstaking survey, known as the "Nigerian Corruption Survey", funded by the European Union.

In 2017 the Northern Youth Council, an umbrella body of all youth organizations in northern Nigeria, adjudged the EFCC as the "Best Anti-Corruption Agency in Africa".

In line with its corruption-prevention and prosecution strategies, the EFCC is currently collaborating with several law enforcement agencies, academic and non-academic bodies, and civil society organisations, some of which include:

The United States Department of Homeland Security

The Homeland Security
Investigations and Postal Inspection
Service

The West African Sharing
Platform project with the Ghanaian
Economic and Organized Crime Office

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

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

### INTERNATIONAL MEMORANDA OF UNDERSTANDING

International Memoranda of Understanding, MoU 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), Republic of

Niger

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).

### **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 \$ 3.2 million 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.

Abdul Adewale Kekere-Ekun - who had been declared wanted in the UK for murder was arrested by EFCC operatives in Lagos and extradited to the UK on March 24, 2015.

Franca Asemota – was extradited by the EFCC on January 27, 2016 to face trial for offences bordering on child trafficking. The self-acclaimed businesswoman who was later convicted by a UK court on July 5, 2016 was arrested by the EFCC on March 24, 2015 in Benin, Edo State for money laundering related offence.

Adedunmola Gbadegesin was extracted on April 24,2022 to the US for wire fraud.

## Ali the Crook

## A self-acclaimed Maiduguri businessman runs out of his cunningness bags jail-term for Land Scam

By Jamilu Sale//Maiduguri

bdulmumini Ali, perhaps now knows that integrity and honesty pays, no matter the amount of money involved.

Ali and one Abor Gambomi were alleged to have collected the said sum of N420,000 from Mustapha Shettima Wakil, their victim in the guise that it will be used to help purchase a piece of land at No 85 measuring 50ft by 100ft laying and situated at Njimtilo, Konduga Local Government Area, Borno State.

However, they converted the money to their personal use.

They were first arraigned on September 28, 2021 and they pleaded "not guilty" to the two-count amended charge, setting the stage for trial. When the matter resumed on March 29, 2022, Ali shocked by the weight of evidence gathered against him, chose to change his plea to "guilty" to a further amended charge prepared against him by the EFCC.

Justice Kumaliya, thereafter, convicted Ali and sentenced him to six months imprisonment with the option of N50,000 fine.

The trial of the second



## Fall of Conman Sadiq

Man who procured fake Maltese international passports for his victim at cost of 40,000 euros jailed

By Segun Adeoye//lagos



y the time you are reading this, Abiodun Adeola Sadiq has already begun his five years jail term at the Ikoyi Correctional Centre.

Fifty-year-old Sadiq, was prosecuted by the EFCC on an amended seven-

count charge bordering on obtaining by false pretence and forgery, for defrauding a businessman, Babatunde Emmanuel, of the 40,000 euros under the guise that the funds would be used for the Malta Government Citizenship Investment Programme as well as to procure Malta international passport. He had presented himself to the victim as an agent of the Maltese government.

Upon receipt of the money, the defendant merely furnished his victim with fake Maltese international passport, which upon use, resulted in the deportation of the victim when he used it to travel to Europe, with his 10-year visa revoked. He was also accused of forging two other Maltese international passports in the names of Vincent Genesis Oyinlola and Vincents Olivia Ashinedun.

He pleaded "not guilty" to the charges.

In the course of the trial, the prosecuting counsel, S.O. Daji, called four witnesses, including the victim. Sadiq also took to the dock to defend himself claiming that the forged passport, which landed the victim in trouble, was obtained from one "Sesan", whose surname and location he could not provide throughout the trial.

Delivering judgement, Justice Taiwo held that the prosecution proved all the counts against the defendant beyond every reasonable doubt and sentenced him to five years on count one, and two years each on counts two to seven. The sentences run concurrently.

He was also ordered to pay restitution to his victim.

## Waves of Trouble

## For providing false information to the EFCC, a staff of a Kwara radio station finds herself in troubled water

By Gbenga Adewoye//ilorin

he Ilorin Zonal Command of the Economic and Financial Crimes Commission, EFCC, on April 5, 2022, arraigned one Funmilayo Florence Babalola, a former staff of a popular radio station in Kwara State for giving false information to the Commission.

Babalola, 51, was arraigned on a twocount charge before Justice Muhammed Sani of the Federal High Court sitting in Ilorin.

The defendant allegedly in her statement to the Commission, falsely denied ownership of a White Lexus 350 SUV linked to her, while the car documents as well as her chats with

the car seller proved the contrary.

The defendant pleaded "not guilty" to the charge.

The trial of Babalola, who was granted bail in the sum of N2million with two sureties in like sum, is ongoing.

Babalola, 51, was arraigned on a two-count charge before Justice Muhammed Sani of the Federal High Court sitting in Ilorin.



## Caught in their own Web

Two tricksters engaged in a United States oil exportation scam land in jail

By Segun Adeoye//Lagos



he wheels of justice turn slowly, but grind exceedingly fine, goes a cliché.

This aptly summarises the fate that has now befallen the duo of Epebinu Omoniyi and Adekanbi Adedayo, who were prosecuted by the EFCC before Justice S.S. Ogunsanya of a Lagos State High Court, Ikeja for alleged petroleum exportation scam.

They alongside their companies - Pure Pack Oil Nigeria Ltd and First Hallmark



Energy Ltd, respectively, were arraigned on October 16, 2017 on an eight-count charge bordering on conspiracy to obtain money by false pretence, obtaining by false pretence, conspiracy to commit felony and forgery.

They were accused to have in December 2014 in Lagos deceptively collected the sum of N3,000,000 from their victim, Ayo Faleti, claiming that they had secured a contract from Nigerian National Petroleum Corporation (NNPC) to supply crude oil from Nigeria to the United

They were sentenced to seven years on counts one and two, and three years on counts three, four, five, seven and eight, to run concurrently.

States of America and that it represented one percent contract performance bond payment.

They pleaded "not guilty' of the charges and also took to the dock to defend themselves.

Justice Ogunsanya saw through their tricks, and on March 17, 2022, found them guilty as charged. They were sentenced to seven years on counts one and two, and three years on counts three, four, five, seven and eight, to run concurrently. The companies were also each fined N100,000 having been found guilty of counts one and two.

## Sahura Catastrophe

### Business deal of N5,500,000 lands woman in prison

By Abbas Abubakar//abuja



ahura Ajoke Mohammed, will definitely be looking back in disappointment, when she looks at the situation she has put herself into, all because of N5,500,000.

The EFCC arraigned her on April 1, 2022, before Justice F.A. Aliyu of the Federal Capital Territory, FCT High Court, Apo, Abuja, on a three-count charge of criminal breach of trust and obtaining under false pretence.

The defendant pleaded "not guilty" to the charge when read to her.

Sahura is accused of collecting the sum of N5,500,000 from one Aminu Tasiu and Bawagana Mohammed for

conversion to United States dollars, but failed to perform the transaction, and instead converted the money to her use.

Her trial is ongoing even as she cools her heels at the Suleja Correctional Centre.

Sahura is accused of collecting the sum of N5,500,000 from one Aminu Tasiu and Bawagana Mohammed for conversion to United States dollars...

## Fraud in His Veins

An ex-convict in the United States faces the music for an alleged \$1.4million fraud orchestrated from Nigeria

By Segun Adeoye//Lagos



lumpy looking Kolawole
Adedayo Erinle cuts the look of
a harmless fellow, with his
gentle mien; but if the weighty
allegations against him, particularly
his being an ex-convict in the United
States is anything to go by, then it will

He is alleged to have defrauded the Kansas City University of Medicine and Biosciences in the US of about \$1,412,509, in connivance with one Edward Dada, who is on the run, by falsely presenting himself as J.E. Dunn, a local construction company in America, using the website jedunn.org.

be fair to say that fraud flows in his veins.

Erinle is standing trial before Justice Oluwatoyin Taiwo of the Special

Offences Court sitting in Ikeja, Lagos, for an alleged \$1.4million fraud. He was arraigned alongside his firm, Rinde-Remdex Nigeria Limited, on March 11, 2022 on an amended three-count charge bordering on conspiracy, retention of proceeds of criminal conduct, and obtaining money under false pretence to the tune of \$1,410,000.

He is alleged to have defrauded the Kansas City University of Medicine and Biosciences in the US of about \$1,412,509, in connivance with one Edward Dada, who is on the run, by falsely presenting himself as J.E. Dunn, a local construction company in America, using the website jedunn.org.

He pleaded "not guilty" to the charges.

He currently enjoys a N50 million bail and is expected back in Court on April



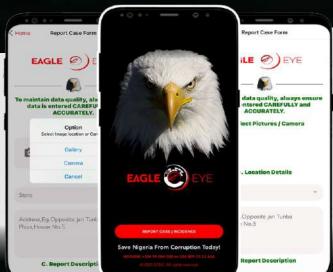
**Economic and Financial Crimes Commission** announces the launch of



An App specially developed by the EFCC to ease the reporting of economic and financial crimes



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