

IN THE FEDERAL HIGH COURT OF NIGERIA
IN THE ABUJA JUDICIAL DIVISION
HOLDEN AT ABUJA
ON FRIDAY, 4TH DAY OF JULY, 2025
BEFORE HIS LORDSHIP, HON. JUSTICE B.F.M. NYAKO
JUDGE
SUIT NO.: FHC/ABJ/CS/384/2025

BETWEEN:

SENATOR NATATSHA AKPOTI-UDUAGHAN.....**PLAINTIFF**

AND

1. THE CLERK OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
OF THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA
2. THE SENATE OF THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC
OF NIGERIA
3. THE PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE OF THE FEDERAL **DEFENDANTS**
REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA: SENATOR GODSWILL AKPABIO
4. THE CHAIRMAN, SENATE COMMITTEE ON ETHICS,
PRIVILEGES AND PUBLIC PETITIONS: SENATOR NEDA
IMASUSEN

JUDGMENT ORDER

UPON THIS CASE coming up ON the 4th July, 2025 before His lordship, the Honourable Justice B.F.M. Nyako for Judgment.

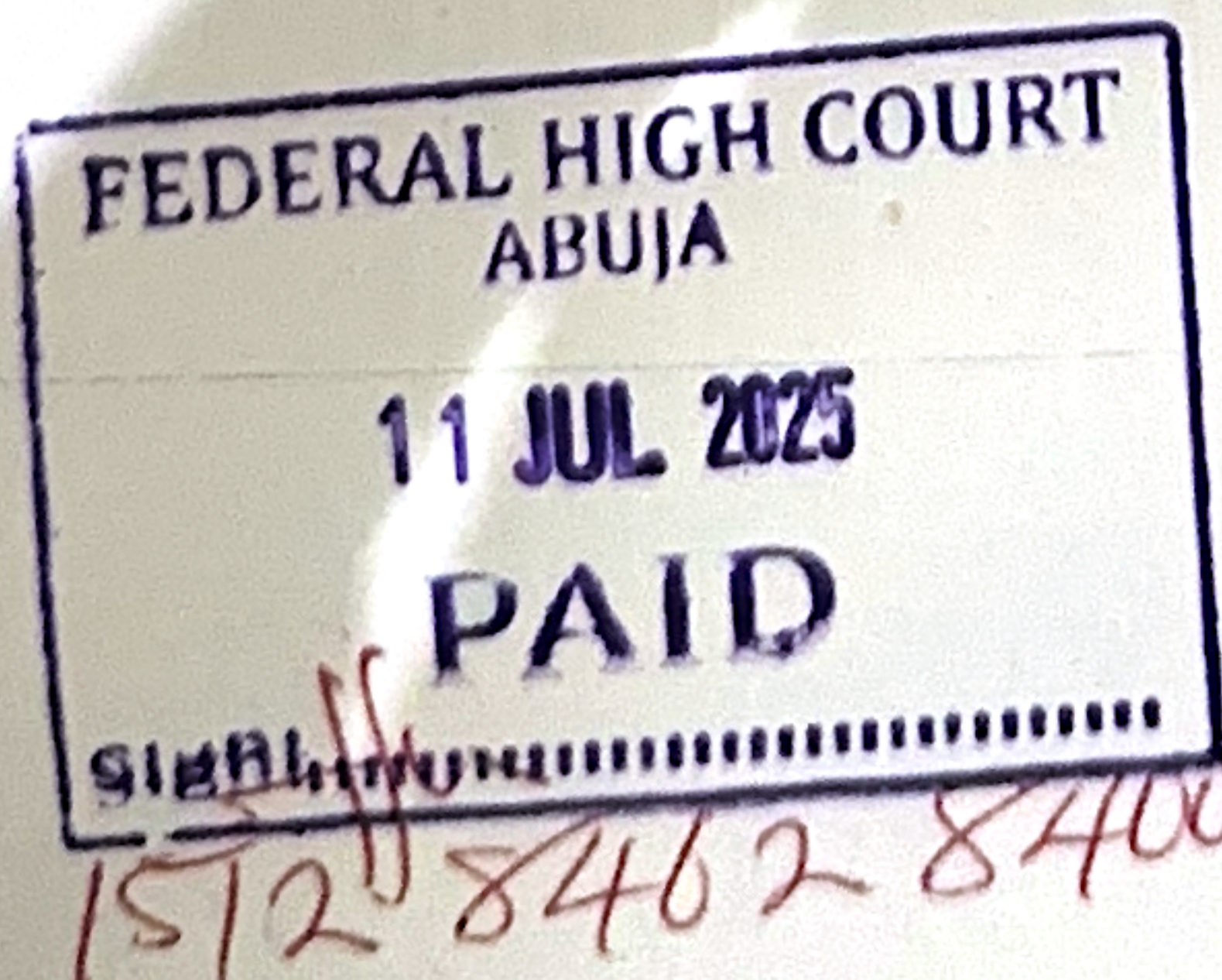
PARTIES: Absent.

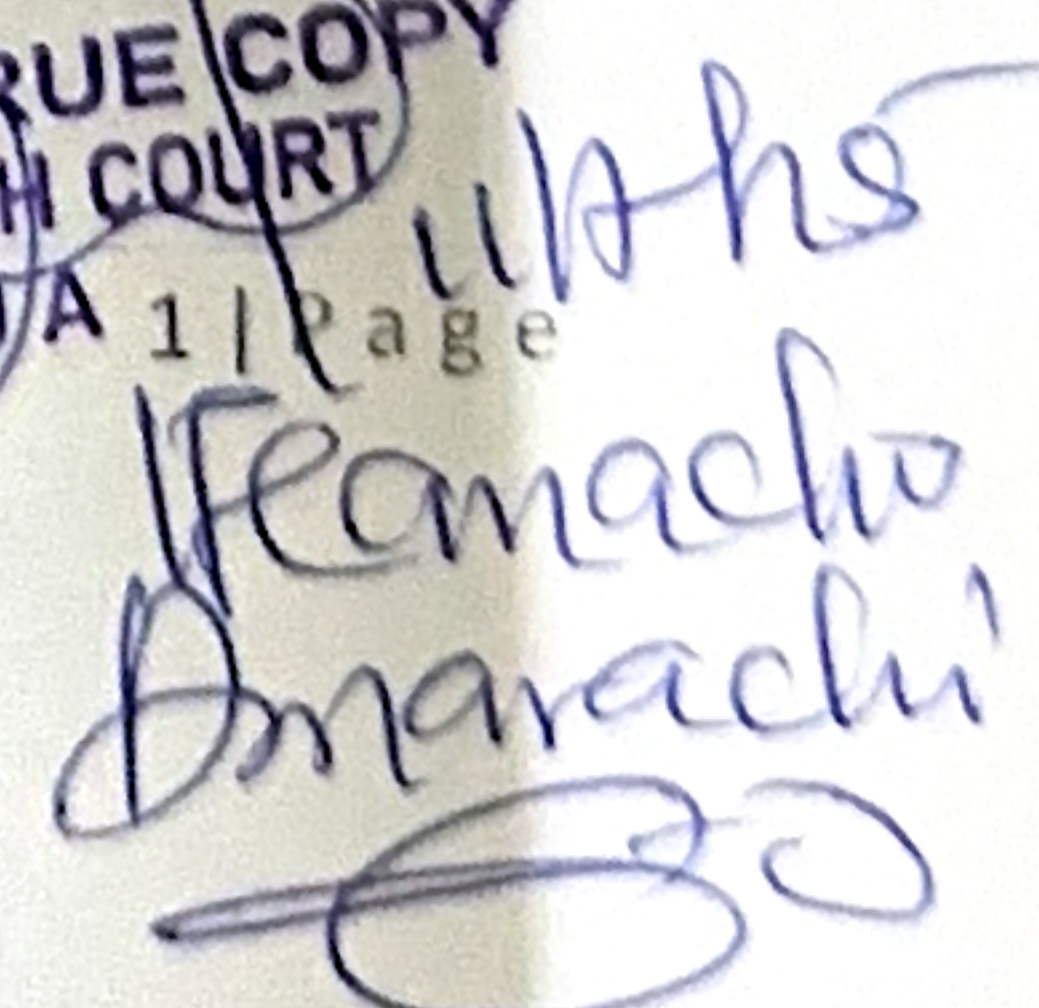
COUNSELS: Michael Jonathan Numa, SAN, with Aja Nwani Aja, Esq, Victor Giwa, Esq, Teejani Jimoh, Esq., and Queen M. Jim-Ogbolo, Esq. for the Plaintiffs.

Charles Yoila, Esq. for the 1st Defendant.



HON. JUSTICE B.F.M. NYAKO



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Paul Babatunde Daudu, SAN, with
Gbenga Makanjuola, Esq., Monday
Adjeh, Esq., Akpomiemie M.
Akpomiemie, Esq., E.C. Onyekwere,
Esq., Precious Andrew, Esq.,
Obiora Ojiyi, Esq., and Esther
Eigbomian, Esq. for the 2nd
Defendants.

Eko Ejembi Eko, SAN, with
Olamide M. Adekunle, Esq. Uchechi
Esther Chibuize, Esq., Elizabeth
Blessing Okhai, Esq., E.E. Akaater,
Esq. and T.S. Terver-Ubwa, Esq. for
the 3rd Defendant.

Valentine Offia, Esq. for the 4th
Defendant.

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED AS FOLLOWS:

1. **That** all previous Orders and all pending applications before this Court became seized of the matter are hereby set aside except the Originating Summons, preliminary objections and motion for interlocutory injunction which will be taken together.
2. **That** having found that the Plaintiff acted in breach of this court's subsisting order, the Plaintiff must take responsibility for her action and remedy same. Thus, an order is hereby made for the Plaintiff to pay a fine in the sum of N5 Million to the Federal Government Treasury and to publish a public apology to the court in two (2) National Dailies and on her Facebook page within 7 days of today to purge herself of the contempt.
3. **That** the preliminary objection succeeds in part in that some aspects of the cause of actions may be inchoate but in enforcement of fundamental rights an act can lie where the infringement is in anticipation - is being, has been or is likely to be breached.

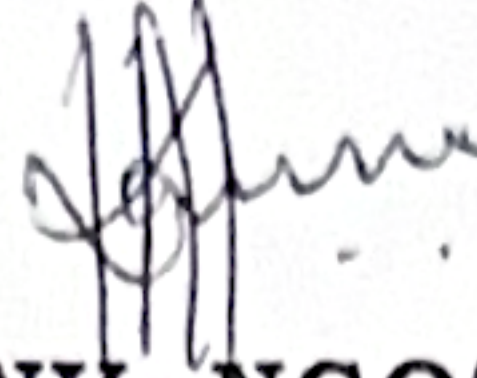
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4. **That** the application for interlocutory injunction filed, which reliefs are similar to those in the Originating Summon are hereby subsumed into the Originating Summons and shall be determined together.
5. **That** reliefs 1, 2, and 3 calls for the interpretations of Order 9, 10 and 11 of the Senate Rules that touches on the privileges inuring to a Senator.
6. **That** a Senator can only raise issues of privilege upon complying with the provision of Chapter 3 Order 6 of the Senate Rules.
7. **That** I also find that the Senate Rules is superior to the Legislative House (Powers & Privileges) Act by virtue of Section 20 thereof.
8. **That** Order 6 of the Senate Rules gives the power to allocate and re-allocate seats to Senators to the Senate President without conditions.
9. **That** reliefs 4 and 5 bordering on the actions or non-actions of the 2nd and 3rd Respondents, I find that for as long as the Senator (Plaintiff) is not speaking from the seat allocated to her, the 2nd and 3rd Respondents cannot and should not take any steps in the Plaintiff's matter as the Plaintiff has not complied with the Senate Rules which govern her as well.
10. **That** to suspend a member for a period of 6 months equals to a suspension for 180 days and this is the same number of days a member is expected to sit in the House, representing his people. That I find this excessive and over reaching noting that it will prevent a member from complying with Section 63 of the 1999 Constitution
11. **That** I am of the opinion that the senate has the power to review the provisions of the Senate Rules and can even amend Section 14(2) of the Legislative Houses (Powers & Privileges) Act both for being excessive and over reaching.
12. **That** the Senate has the power to and I believe should recall the Plaintiff and allow her to resume representing the people who sent her there to represent them.

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[Handwritten signature]

ISSUED AT ABUJA, under the Seal of this
Honourable Court and the Hand of the
Presiding Judge, this 4th day of July, 2025.



KANU, NGOZI B.
REGISTRAR

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1/7/25
Feanachio
Anarachi
