

ACE, CICERO & PARTNERS

Legal Practitioners, Property & Corporate Consultants

FIRM PROFILE

About the Firm

Ase, Cicero & Partners is a full-service law firm based in Abuja, the Federal Capital Territory. The Firm provides legal advisory, litigation, legislative support, governance and regulatory compliance services to clients in both the private and public sectors.

Our practice is built on a simple standard: sound legal judgment, timely delivery and strict confidentiality. We combine courtroom experience with a practical understanding of how government institutions, regulators and commercial enterprises operate in Nigeria so that our clients receive advice that is both legally robust and commercially workable.

Practice Areas

The Firm is positioned to support investors, entrepreneurs, industrialists, business leaders, organizational leaders, foreigners and citizens, desiring in establishing and operating businesses in Nigeria, safe running of their organizations, and preservation of their liberties. Our services in the principal sectors of interest are set out below.

1.

CORPORATE AND COMMERCIAL PRACTICE

We provide day-to-day legal support to businesses, with particular emphasis on drafting and reviewing commercial contracts that protect our clients from avoidable liability.

- Review, drafting and negotiation of commercial contracts, supply, distribution and agency agreements
- Corporate governance, secretarial services and filing of annual returns
- Employment and labour advice, including contracts for local and expatriate staff
- Regulatory compliance and data-protection advisory
- Dispute resolution, including negotiation, mediation, arbitration and litigation

2.

REAL ESTATE AND PROPERTY LAW

We advise on the acquisition, development, leasing and disposal of land and buildings, having regard to the Land Use Act and the laws of the Federal Capital Territory and the States.

- Title investigation, due diligence and property searches
- Sale, lease and tenancy agreements
- Governor's and Minister's consent, registration of title and perfection of interests
- Real estate development, joint-venture and off-plan arrangements
- Recovery of premises and property-related litigation

3.

INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY

We help investors protect their brands, inventions and designs in Nigeria, which is essential for businesses bringing products and technology into a new market.

- Trademark searches, registration, renewal, assignment and licensing
- Patent applications and advice on patentability and enforcement

- Registration and protection of industrial designs
- Copyright advice and technology-transfer, franchise and licensing agreements
- Enforcement, opposition proceedings and anti-counterfeiting actions

4. **INVESTMENT PRACTICE**

We guide investors through market entry and the structuring of their Nigerian operations, from incorporation to regulatory clearance and repatriation of returns. This practice provides the following services:

- incorporation of companies and registration of business names and branches under the Companies and Allied Matters Act
- registration with the Nigerian Investment Promotion Commission and other regulatory bodies
- joint ventures, shareholder agreements and investment structuring
- investment incentives, tax advisory coordination and capital importation documentation
- mergers, acquisitions and due diligence

5. **IMMIGRATION LAW**

We assist foreign nationals, expatriate staff and their employers to enter, live and work in Nigeria in compliance with the Immigration Act and related regulations.

- Business, work and residence visa applications and renewals
- Expatriate Quota applications, approvals and variations
- Residence permits and related registrations for expatriates and their dependants
- Regularisation of immigration status and advice on compliance obligations
- Representation before the Nigeria Immigration Service and the Federal Ministry of Interior
- Paths to becoming Nigerian citizens

6. **MEDICAL LAW**

We advise healthcare providers, pharmaceutical and medical-device businesses and investors in the health sector on the legal and regulatory framework governing their operations.

- Licensing and registration of hospitals, clinics, laboratories and pharmacies
- Regulatory approvals and compliance with the National Agency for Food and Drug Administration and Control and other health regulators
- Healthcare contracts, partnerships and professional agreements
- Medical negligence defence, professional disciplinary matters and patient-data protection

7. **BANKING LAW**

We advise financial institutions, businesses and individuals on banking, finance and secured-lending transactions.

- Facility agreements, security documentation and perfection of security
- Loan and debt recovery
- Advisory on banking regulation and foreign-exchange and cross-border payment compliance
- Establishment and licensing advice for financial-services businesses

8.

HOSPITALITY

We support investors in hotels, restaurants, resorts, event centres and tourism-related ventures at every stage, from site acquisition to operation.

- Land acquisition, development and construction contracts
- Hotel management, franchise and operator agreements
- Licensing, permits and regulatory compliance
- Employment and labour matters, supplier contracts and dispute resolution

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9.

MINING

We advise on the acquisition and operation of interests in the solid-minerals sector under the Nigerian Minerals and Mining Act and its regulations.

- Mineral titles: applications for licences, leases and permits, and their transfer and renewal
- Due diligence on mining assets and tenements
- Joint ventures, off-take and processing agreements
- Community development agreements and environmental and regulatory compliance

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10.

MARITIME

We assist clients engaged in shipping, ports, logistics and international trade through Nigerian waters and ports.

- Admiralty and shipping litigation, including ship arrest and cargo claims
- Charter parties, bills of lading and freight and logistics contracts
- Customs, clearing and port-related regulatory matters
- Marine insurance and ship-finance advisory

11.

TRUST

We advise on the creation, administration and protection of trusts, and on estate and succession planning.

- Preparation of trust deeds and the establishment of family, commercial and charitable trusts
- Registration of incorporated trustees with the Corporate Affairs Commission
- Wills, Probate and Administration of Estates
- Advice to Trustees on their duties and trust-related disputes

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12.

OTHER PRACTICE AREAS INCLUDES:

- Election Petition
- Matrimonial Causes
- Sports Law
- Labour Law
- Civil and Criminal Trials
- Alternative Dispute Resolution
- Legal Consultancy.

WHY ASE, CICERO & PARTNERS

- **Full-service capability:** transactional, regulatory and litigation support under one roof
- Government and regulatory insight, drawn from our legislative-support and governance work.
- Dispute resolution experience across litigation and alternative dispute resolution
- Confidentiality and professionalism in handling our clients' data, documents and records



CONTACT:

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