



GHANA BAR ASSOCIATION

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GHANA BAR ASSOCIATION'S STATEMENT ON THE HONOURABLE CHIEF JUSTICE'S CIRCULAR ON OBSERVING AGE-OLD TRADITIONS OF THE BAR IN CALLING CASES IN COURT

The Ghana Bar Association (GBA) makes reference to the circular dated the 22nd day of March, 2022, issued by the Honourable Chief Justice of the Republic of Ghana on the above-mentioned subject matter.

The GBA fully and completely associates itself with the subject matter under reference and lends full support to the adherence to the age-old tradition and practice among members of the legal fraternity, especially courtroom practitioners, of calling cases of persons whose names are on the Roll of Lawyers, in order of seniority of enrolment, notwithstanding the notion of equality at the Bar.

The GBA unreservedly endorses the directive by the Chief Justice to ALL trial judges, and reiterates the position canvassed in the Chief Justice's circular that the age-old tradition and practice of calling cases of persons whose names are on the Roll of Lawyers, in order of seniority of enrolment, notwithstanding the notion of equality at the Bar, presents a **unique and special** opportunity for Lawyers, particularly those relatively young at the Bar, to learn from the rich experience of senior Lawyers, especially the advocacy skills of such senior Lawyers. This has the huge potential of benefiting people who hire the services of Lawyers as the practice affords Lawyers, especially young Lawyers, the unbridled opportunity of honing their lawyering skills.

The GBA has taken note of the various shades of comments and opinions expressed by different persons, particularly persons who are not known to the GBA to have been called to the Bar in Ghana, and therefore do not practise in the courts of Ghana, on the Chief Justice's position on the age-old tradition and practice, and wish to state that courtroom practice in Ghana and for that matter the legal profession in Ghana is characterised by certain revered age-old traditions, ceremonies and practices, which must not be done away with or compromised under any circumstances.

The GBA wishes to inform ALL Lawyers that the directive by the Chief Justice to ALL trial judges per the circular dated the 22nd day of March, 2022, is also the decision of the General Legal Council.

Kwasi Amoako Adjei
Nana Serwaa Acheampong
Saviour Kudze

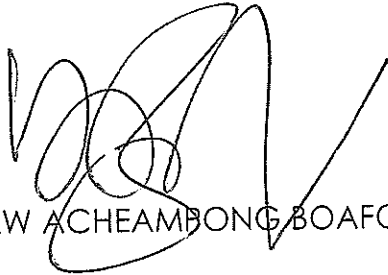
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The GBA implores ALL Lawyers who practise in the Courts of Ghana to fully cooperate with trial judges in upholding this age-old tradition and practice as Lawyers stand a great chance of benefiting immensely from same, especially so as the right to call a case out of turn is not absolute and is exercisable subject to the convenience of the Court.

DATED IN ACCRA THIS 13TH DAY OF APRIL, 2022



YAW ACHEAMPONG BOAFO
(NATIONAL PRESIDENT)



KWAKU GYAU BAFFOUR, ESQ.
(NATIONAL SECRETARY)