

Tonye Tony Oki

2565 S. University Blvd.
310, Denver CO 80210
+1 720 436 4009
toki08@law.du.edu

QUALIFICATIONS PROFILE

- Barrister, Solicitor and Advocate, Chartered Mediator and Arbitrator
- International experience and specialization in the field of Natural Resources Law & Policy, Environmental Law & Policy, Hazardous & Toxic Waste Law, and Energy & Mineral Resources Regulations and Agreements
- Superlative experience in research, review and analysis of complex legal documents, laws, rules and regulations
- Practiced internationally before arbitrators and participated in the conduct of mediation in a variety of high-profile cases involving community disputes, community/corporate body disputes, and achieved favorable resolution of often sensitive and very complex cases
- Professionally certified in corporate governance, corporate administration and management
- Writer / Editor of several Law related Articles and publications
- Excellent understanding of the Microsoft Office software – MS Word, Word Perfect, Excel, and Power Point. Intermediate understanding of Program Concepts (visual), Network Essentials, WEB Application Design (HTML) and Advanced Database Management Systems

LECTURING EXPERIENCE

Adjunct Professor, University of Denver Sturm College of Law (Masters Program)
Denver – CO, October 2008 – Present

- Lecture the graduate level course on Negotiation of Natural Resources Agreements

Guest Lecturer, University of Denver Sturm College of Law, Denver – CO

- Lecture on Environment & Natural Resources Law and Policy to the graduate level Comparative Environmental Law Class

CORPORATE EXPERIENCE

Tyche Corporations, *St. Louis – MI*, December 2008 - Present;
Director – Legal Affairs

- Directly responsible for all legal matters arising from Tyche's transactions, manage day to day corporate housekeeping, oversee risk management, legal cost containment, contract, leases, and import/export issues
- Negotiate and draft the full suite of upstream exploration contracts including Host Government Agreements, Joint Bidding Agreements, Joint Operating Agreements, Farm In/Out Agreements and provide legal advice and guidance on all legal issues relating to exploration and new venture activities internationally
- Assist in negotiating with relevant regulatory authorities to obtain permits to operate, exploration licenses and any other licenses to operate
- Superlative communication and coordination of activities on both domestic and international operations

Divine Oil & Gas Inc., *Denver – CO*, March 2007 – November 2008;

Assistant Director – Legal

- Adeptly provided analysis and counsel on legal, policy, and environmental issues, proposed new products and protected intellectual property

- Co-manuscripted insurance policies for Divine Exploration's business, including policies designed to protect Divine Exploration Nigeria, its subsidiaries, customers, and additional loss of interest policies to protect major banking clients
- Obtained all necessary permits and licenses, reviewed all import export tax issues and served as consultant for all regional managers on international business decisions including personnel, business strategy and tax issues
- Communicated and coordinated activities on both domestic and international operations in Africa; and, utilized my working knowledge of corporate governance best practices in the administration

Westminster Law Library, University of Denver, Denver – CO; August 2005 – May 2007 Circulation Staff

- Reference and research using print and online sources
- Assist students in finding information and using it effectively
- Follow trends related to publishing, computers, and the media in order to oversee the selection and organization of library materials
- Interlibrary loan; research requests and obtaining copies of articles timely

Divine Explorations International., Abuja – Nigeria, May 2005 – March 2007; Associate Counsel

- Worked with General Counsel - Exploration and other lawyers to draft, settle and update precedents for operational contracts as and when required to enable low value/ low risk work to be undertaken by contracts manager without Legal input
- Managed business acquisitions & sale transactions, and handled research in oil & gas production leases, loans, oil exploration & production in Africa
- Analyzed oil and gas agreements (mineral lease, assignment, trade, joint operating, division order, right-of-way, etc.) and property title documents (deeds, wills, trusts)
- Represented Divine Exploration Nigeria in international business transactions, government contracting and compliance, employment issues, corporate formalities, and other general corporate legal issues
- Worked with outside counsels in litigation and specialized areas of natural resources and environmental policies, private mergers and acquisitions and human resource issues

LITIGATION EXPERIENCE

Afam Okeke & Co, Legal Practitioners, Abuja – Nigeria Nov 2004 – April 2005

- Land Law, Environmental Law and Toxic Torts
- Advocated cases on behalf of women and children with regards to ailments resulting from toxic wastes and other anthropogenic environmental degradation causes
- Performed litigation preparation and support, including initial research, correspondence, drafting motions, responding to interrogatories, and performing pre-trial negotiation
- Drafted pleadings and motions, participated in discovery proceedings, negotiated with claims personnel, and prepared letter illustrating exposure and recommended settlement figures

D. D. Dodo & Co; Legal Practitioners Abuja – Nigeria, March 2004 – Nov 2004

- Corporations Law, Real Estate, Elections Law and Constitutional Law
- Represented a diverse group of clients in civil litigation matters; met with clients and developed trial strategy based on clients needs and recommendations
- Assisted in developing programs, drafted and interpreted laws and legislation, established enforcement procedures, and drafted legal correspondence and other legal documents, court reports and affidavits
- Delivered and directed delivery of subpoenas to witnesses and parties to action(s)

Federal Government of Nigeria, Karu-Nassarawa, March 2003 – March 2004

- Represented indigent clients in Environmental Law, Criminal Law and Dispute Resolution cases
- Researched and studied legal documents to investigate facts and law of cases to determine causes of action and prepare drafts of briefs or arguments for review and litigation
- Worked with outside counsels in litigation and specialized areas of natural resources and environmental policies, private mergers and acquisitions and human resource issues

MEDIATION & ARBITRATION

Okeke & Co, Med-Arb, Legal Practitioners, Federal Capital Territory, Nigeria, November 2004 – August 2005

- Successfully conducted mediation and effectively resolved a series of complex cases of community dispute and community/corporate body dispute resolution
- Participated in high profile Arbitration with other attorney and chartered arbitrators
- Proficiently conducted several mediation involving private parties in a wide range of cases

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Law Office of Luke Danielson, Gunnison CO, June 2007 - September 2007

Research Associate

- Adeptly conducted extensive legal research, researched legal questions using Colorado law, as well as the law of other states and federal law when appropriate
- Proficiently summarized and shepardized cases and statutes
- Efficiently collected, organized, and summarized a wide variety of information, materials, documents, reports and evidence

Natural Resources Web Links, Denver – CO, October 2005 – July 2006

Research Assistant

- Extensive research on negotiated securities, and easements for projects in America, Europe and Africa
- Dexterously maintained current understanding of laws and regulations affecting oil & gas, mineral rights and property ownership in all jurisdictions in Africa
- Broad research on the investment climate for minerals and other natural resources in numerous Countries from all Continents of the world, and extensive research on the web for the compilation of Natural Resources Laws and Environmental Laws

Divine Oil and Gas Inc., Denver CO. July 2005 – March 2006

Research Associate

- Proficiently conducted extensive legal research, complex international corporate transactions and negotiations
- Provided legal advice and directed research on a variety of environmental regulatory matters that arise from Divine Oil's Africa operations
- Researched and wrote a proposal to provide Divine Oil with additional protection from union organizations. This proposal was later incorporated into company policy and implemented in company and all its subsidiaries

Prof. Wendy Duong: South China Sea Dispute: University of Denver Sturm College of Law, October 2005 – July 2006

Research Assistant

- Comprehensive legal research on the Law of the Sea
- Conducted legal research, draft, edit, cite-check and analyze documents

Divine Oil Explorations (Ltd), Abuja – Nigeria, May 2005 – July 2005

Research Associate

- Comprehensive research into International Water Laws, Mineral Laws and Oil & Gas Laws (Royalties, Taxes, Leases, Land Acquisition, Surface Easements, Right of Way Agreements etc)

Ayim & Ayim, Legal Practitioners and Notaries, Lagos – Nigeria February 2001 – August 2003

- Researched real estate laws, domestic relations and probate cases
- Conducted legal research, draft, edit, cite-check and analyze documents
- Researched and studied legal documents to investigate facts and law of cases to determine causes of action and prepare drafts of briefs or arguments for review, approval, and use by attorney

**LEGAL ADVISER
/ CONSULTANT**

- Ten Thousand Lakes Medical Services Inc, Saint Paul, MN. April 2006 - Present
- Divine Oil Explorations (Ltd) Abuja, Nigeria, March 2006 – December 2008
- Solatex Energy, Edinburgh, UK, January 2006 – August 2007
- Platinum Packs Productions (Ltd) Lagos, Nigeria, July 2005 - Present
- Sina Olowolabi & Co. Abuja – Nigeria, December 2004 - Present
- Lilly Ville International (Ltd) Lagos, Nigeria, September 2004 – August 2005

**PUBLICATIONS,
PAPERS
PRESENTED,
EDITED &
REVIEWED**

- Environmental Degradation: The Africa Perspective; Presented to the Students Body of the University of Denver during the DU Africa Week, April 3, 2008
- Anthropogenic Environmental Degradation: USA and Nigeria – Presented to the Izon Peoples Forum, at Atlanta GA, February 7, 2007
- Wendy Duong, Following the Path of Oil: The Law of the Sea or Realpolitik - What Good Does Law Do in the South China Sea Territorial Conflicts?. Fordham International Law Journal, Winter 2006; U Denver Legal Studies Research Paper No. 07-19. – Did Cite Check
- Makongo David, The “Look before you Leap” of Mineral Royalty Agreements August 2006 – reviewed and edited
- Nigerian Environmental Issues – Presented to Graduate Students of Comparative Environmental Law, University of Denver Sturm College of Law Spring 2006
- Renewable Energy as an Aid to Rural Development in Africa – Presented to Graduate Students of Renewable Energy Law at the University of Denver Sturm College of Law Winter 2005
- Amatare E. Oki, The Juvenile Justice System in Contemporary Nigeria, Olabisi Onabanjo University, Ogun State – Nigeria, February 2005, – Did cite check
- Rights of the Child in Contemporary Nigeria, Faculty of Laws, Ambrose Alli University, May 2004

**INTERNSHIPS &
EXTERNSHIPS**

International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda, 2007

- Worked as an extern on the Rwanda genocide

D. D. Dodo & Co; Legal Practitioners, Abuja, Nigeria March 2004-April 2004

- Proficiently collaborated with attorneys to ensure accurate preparation of briefs
- Adroitly conducted legal research; prepared and filed Court documents
- Conduct of complex corporate transactions with the Corporate Affairs Commission, and the Securities and Exchange Commission of Nigeria

High Court of the Federal Capital Territory, Nigeria Feb 2004 – Mar 2004

- Managed Court Docket on a daily basis
- Superbly carried out extensive legal researches for Judges

Federal Government of Nigeria, National Youth Service Corps, Karu -

Nassarawa – Nigeria, March 2003 – February 2004

- Proficiently advocated cases on behalf of women and children with regards to ailments resulting from toxic wastes and other anthropogenic environmental degradation
- Successfully conducted and effectively resolved in collaboration with other counsels, a series of complex cases of community dispute mediation and corporate body/community dispute mediation
- Efficiently conducted legal research, complex corporate transactions and negotiations

Ayim & Ayim, Legal Practitioners and Notaries, Lagos – Nigeria February 2001 – August 2003

- Accurately took notes at clients Interviews, in court and attended trials
- Assisted attorneys in the preparation of pleadings, briefs and other documents
- Efficiently conducted extensive legal research on a variety of subjects

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

- International Mining Professionals Society USA, 2006
- Chartered Institute of Arbitrators (UK), March 2005
- Institute of Chartered Mediators and Conciliators, November 2004
- Nigerian Bar Association, September, 2004
- Nigerian Institute of Management (Chartered), October 2003
- Institute Of Chartered Secretaries and Administrators (UK) Feb., 2003

EDUCATION

University of Denver Sturm College of Law Denver, CO

Master of Laws (LLM) May 20th, 2006

Scholastic Excellence Award

Chartered Institute of Arbitrators (UK) March 2005

Member of the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators

Institute of Chartered Mediators & Conciliators November 2004

Chartered Mediator

Nigerian Law School Enugu Campus, Enugu State - Nigeria

Barrister at Law [BL], Solicitor and Advocate of the Supreme Court of Nigeria
September 8th, 2004

- *Director of Welfare, Catholic Law Students Association*

Ambrose Alli University Ekpoma, Edo State - Nigeria

Bachelor of Laws [LLB] Honors, July 30th, 2003

- *Chief Justice; Supreme Court of the Students' Union Government, Ambrose Alli University, 2001 – 2002*
- *Honorable Speaker of the House of Parliament, Law Students' Association 2000 – 2001*
- *Public Relations Officer; Law Students' Association 1999 – 2000*
- *Member of the House of Parliament, Law Students' Association 1998-1999*

AWARDS & HONORS

- Scholastic Excellence Award, University of Denver Sturm College of Law Denver CO. May 2006
- Award of Honor, United Nations / NYSC Karu Local Government, Nassarawa State – Nigeria, February 2004
- Ambrose Alli University Excellence Award in Recognition of Duties as Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of the Students Union Government of Ambrose Alli University, April 2002
- Award of Honor in Recognition of Duties as Speaker, Law Students Association, Ambrose Alli University, Edo State – Nigeria. September 2001