



GOVERNMENT RELATIONS, REGULATORY AND PUBLIC POLICY ADVOCACY PRACTICE GROUP

“Our political process renders the public mute in a contest of volume.”

- Freequill

GOVERNMENT RELATIONS, REGULATORY AND PUBLIC POLICY ADVOCACY PRACTICE GROUP

Our government relations, regulatory and public policy practice understands that solutions to issues faced by clients involves the very processes by which legislation and policy are conceived, developed and implemented by federal, state and local governments in the Federal Republic of Nigeria.

We represent a wide range of individuals, small and medium-sized companies, government agencies, foreign governments, foreign-based companies (fortune 500 US companies) and organizations, and trade associations.

We design and provide a full range of advocacy initiatives on behalf of our clients, including submitting written comments, offering testimony at House of Assembly, National Assembly and regulatory hearings, drafting legal and policy white papers, engaging with policymakers directly, and holding industry events.

Client assistance crosses industries and interest areas that include but not limited to:

- **Banking and Financial services**
- **Information Communications and Technology**
- **Taxation**
- **Energy and Infrastructure**
- **Immigration**

Banking and Financial Services

With experience navigating state and federal government agencies and State Houses of Assemblies, Senate and House of Representative committees with jurisdiction over financial services issues, our team represents payment processors, trade associations, global financial institutions, insurance companies, and alternative lenders at every level.

We execute on behalf of our clients' direct advocacy campaigns, develop and shape policy, expand existing relationships with members of State Houses of Assemblies and the National Assembly, and engage with the administration of the day to further position our clients.

Information Communications and Technology

We advocate on behalf of our telecommunications clients on matters related to privacy, data, cross border dealings, local content, cybersecurity, consumer protection, and all ICT sector interventions including policies, regulations, guidelines and legislation.

Tax Policy

Our tax policy professionals develop and execute strategies to further our clients' interests in specific legislation and broad-based tax reform proposals. We assist clients whose interests may be affected by tax legislation already enacted, as well as organizations in need of a voice on pending legislation being considered by the State Houses of Assemblies or the National Assembly. We have cultivated extensive contacts at revenue services agencies at both Federal and State levels.

Anti-Money Laundering

We represent a wide variety of clients on regulatory, civil and criminal matters involving anti-money laundering (AML) laws. Our clients include domestic and multinational companies from all industries, their boards and senior officers, and individuals on all aspects of anti-money laundering laws and regulations. Our services include counseling on compliance, transactional due diligence, voluntary disclosures, implementation of remedial measures and compliance programs, and defence of federal and state government investigations. We frequently assist clients in the development and implementation of internal compliance programs, conduct internal investigations and advise on the design of remedial measures (including in-house training programs).

We have substantial experience in the resolution of administrative and enforcement proceedings involving federal and state regulatory agencies. Our lawyers also are experienced in a wide variety of matters involving data privacy and protection compliance and related matters.


Investigations

We assist with multijurisdictional investigations and proceedings routinely pursued by investigative agencies in Nigeria and globally. Our global network and depth of knowledge across the firm's practices enables us to conduct fact-finding and analysis in connection with complex cross-border investigations.

Our investigations team has a deep understanding of the State Houses Assemblies and the National Assembly and the committee rules, and key players of investigative proceedings. We have guided clients through proceedings, ranging from industry and issue specific to confirmations, on a variety of topics, including consumer protection, energy and environment, ethics and management, financial services, food and drug safety, healthcare, and privacy and data security. Our lawyers work to develop nuanced response strategies that unambiguously tell our clients' side of the story to the State Houses of Assemblies or the National Assembly, Regulators, Policy makers, company stakeholders, and, when appropriate, the general public.

The firm also has significant experience conducting internal investigations and compliance-related due diligence, as well as designing, implementing and reviewing compliance programs for multinational companies.

Foreign Corrupt Practices Act and Anti-Corruption

A black and white photograph of a business meeting. Several people are seated around a table, with their hands and arms visible as they interact with documents and devices. The image is slightly blurred, creating a professional and busy atmosphere.

Advocaat has the expertise to navigate clients through this high-risk area of law. Our lawyers are experienced in structuring and implementing effective corporate compliance programs designed to prevent violations.

We have represented energy, engineering, telecommunications and technology, and construction companies on FCPA and anti-corruption related issues

TRANSACTION EXPERIENCE

Some of our recent mandates includes

- The firm is retained to provide public policy advisory services to **MasterCard**.
- The firm is retained to provide legislative tracking services to **Facebook**.
- The firm is retained to provide legal advisory services on immigration related matters to **Fragomen**.
- The firm is retained to provide legal advisory services on Nigerian immigration and consular related matters to **IBN Immigration Solutions**
- The firm works with **Relocation Africa** in providing immigration and consular services in Nigeria.
- Members of our team represented **Kellog, Brown and Root (KBR)** before the House of Representatives Investigative committee with respect to the bribery allegations levelled against the **Technip, Snamprogetti, KBR (Kellogg Brown & Root, Inc.) and JGC (business partnership) (TSKJ)**.
- Members of our team represented **Halliburton Energy Services Ltd** before the government Investigative panel on the disappearance of radioactive material from Nigeria.



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