



GLC/OLC/VOL.2/104

ANNOUNCEMENT FROM THE GENERAL LEGAL COUNCIL

SUSPENSION OF LAWYER CORNELIUS BANU VITO FROM LEGAL PRACTICE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that **LAWYER CORNELIUS BANU VITO** has been suspended from legal practice for a period of two (2) years commencing from 1st May, 2023.

The above-named lawyer was charged with six counts under Rule 9(7) of the Legal Profession (Professional Conduct and Etiquette) Rules, 1969 (L.I. 613) as indicated below:

Count 1

That he, as a professional lawyer failed to act with utmost honesty and frankness in his dealings with the administrators of the estate of lawyer Anthony Kwakye, by using documents obtained through his work to cause the release of GHC 66,280.00 funds from Focos Orthopaedic Hospital without authorisation.

Count 2

That he, as a professional lawyer failed to act with utmost honesty and frankness in his dealings with the administrators of the estate of lawyer Anthony Kwakye, by causing an unauthorized change of signatories to Société General Ghana bank account number 0012010002945 leading to an unauthorized withdrawal of GHC 90,000.00 on 6th August 2018.

Count 3

That he, as a professional lawyer failed to act with utmost honesty and frankness in his dealings with the administrators of the estate of lawyer Anthony Kwakye, by causing an unauthorized change of signatories to Société General Ghana bank account number 001251000020 leading to an unauthorised withdrawal of USD 40,000.00 on 7th August, 2018.

Count 4

That he, as a professional lawyer failed to act with utmost honesty and frankness in his dealings with the administrators of the estate of lawyer Anthony Kwakye, by causing an unauthorized change of signatories to Société General Ghana bank account numbers 001251000020 and 0012010002945 leading to unauthorised withdrawals of USD 25,000.00 and GHC 32, 000.00 on 23rd August 2018.

Count 5

That he, as a professional lawyer failed to act with utmost honesty and frankness in his dealings with the administrators of the estate of lawyer Anthony Kwakye, by causing an unauthorized change of signatories to Société General Ghana bank account numbers 001251000020 and 0012010002945 leading to unauthorised withdrawals of USD 40,000.00, USD 46,000.00 and GHC 90, 000.00 on 11th March, 2019.

Count 6

That he, as a professional lawyer failed to act with utmost honesty and frankness in his dealings with the administrators of the estate of lawyer Anthony Kwakye, by causing an unauthorized change of signatories to Société General Ghana bank account numbers 001251000020 and 0012010002945 leading to unauthorised withdrawals of USD 40,000.00 and GHC 85, 000.00 on 13th June, 2019.

The lawyer was charged with a seventh count under rule 9(8) of the legal profession (Professional Conduct and Etiquette) Rules 1969 (LI 613), namely:

Count 7

That he, as a professional lawyer conducted himself dishonestly towards the management of Société General Ghana Bank, when he caused the release of funds from the accounts of the estate of lawyer Anthony Kwakye to unauthorized account signatories, by representing that a change of signatories to account numbers 0012010002945 and 001251000020 had been unauthorised by a board resolution of the law firm of Kwakye, Gyambrab & Co. and by agreement of the administrators of the estate of lawyer Anthony Kwakye, knowing these representations to be false.

Finally, lawyer Vito was charged with an eighth count under rule 2(2) of the Legal Profession (Professional Conduct and Etiquette) Rules 1969 (LI 613) as follows:

Count 8

That he, as a professional lawyer failed to uphold the dignity and high standing of the legal profession in his dealings with the estate of the late lawyer Anthony Kwakye when he falsely held himself to be practicing as a member of Kwakye, Gyambrab & Co. law chambers.

He pleaded not guilty to all eight counts. The disciplinary panel found all the eight charges made out. Accordingly, Lawyer Vito was convicted on eight counts.

Lawyer Vito admitted in his written address that he did not conduct himself professionally regarding his dealings in the estate of the Late Anthony Kwakye and fervently prayed for clemency.

During the period of suspension, Mr. Vito shall not hold himself out as a lawyer or attend chambers or render or purport to render any professional legal services to the public. He shall not attend chambers at any time during the period of his suspension.

The licence of **LAWYER CORNELIUS BANU VITO** to practice for the next two (2) years is hereby withdrawn forthwith.

DATED AT LAW COURTS BUILDING, ACCRA

THIS 1ST DAY OF MAY, 2023



**JUSTICE CYNTHIA PAMELA A. ADDO JA
JUDICIAL SECRETARY AND
SECRETARY TO THE GENERAL LEGAL COUNCIL**