IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE: DELTA STATE OF NIGERIA IN THE WARRI JUDICIAL DIVISION: HOLDEN AT WARRI BEFORE HIS LORDSHIP HON, JUSTICE ANTHONY OLOTU AKPOVI (JUDGE) TH DAY OF MAY, 2022 ON TUESDAY THE

BETWEEN:

SUIT NO: W/31C/2020

THE FEDERAL REPUBL

COMPLAINANT

AND

PRINCE THEOPHILUS VOKE OBERIKO

Trading under the name and style of AMALGAMATED PRODUCTION CONTRACTORS ..... DEFDENDANT

COUNSEL:

R. E. AJOBIEWE ESQ. Deputy Chief Superintendent for EFCC

B. O. UBIOWORO ESQ. for the Defendant.

S. C. OBIALO ESQ. holds watching brief for Complainant.

**IUDGMENT** 

By charge dated 27/7/2020 filed by the Economic and Financial Crimes Commission:

That you PRINCE THEOPHILUS VOKE OBERIKO being Managing Director of AMALGAMATED PRODUCTION CONTRACTORS sometime in 2014, at Warri, within the jurisdiction of the High Court of Delta State of Nigeria did issue a Diamond Bank Plc Cheque number 28338367 dated 1st September, 2014 with a face value of Ten Million Naira (10,000,000) only, to Dr. Onuaha Lambert, the said cheque when presented for payment within three months was dishonouled on the ground of insufficient fund standing to the credit of the Account upon which it was drawn and thereby committed an offence contrary to Section 1(1)(b) of the Dishonoured Cheque (offences) Act, Cap D11 Laws of the Federation, 2004 and punishable under Section 1(1)(b)(i) & (ii) of the same Act.

> Asst. Chief Registrar 11108:2022

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COUNT 2:

That you PRINCE THEOPHILUS VOKE OBERIKO being Managing Director of AMALGAMATED PRODUCTION CONTRACTORS sometime in 2014, at Warri, within the jurisdiction of the High Court of Delta State of Nigeria did issue a Diamond Bank Plc Cheque number 28338369 dated 2nd September, 2014 with a face value of Ten Million Naira (10,000,000) only, to Dr. Onuaha Lambert, the said cheque when presented for payment within three months was dishonoured on the ground of insufficient fund standing to the credit of the Account upon which it was drawn and thereby committed an offence contrary to Section 1(1)(b) of the Dishonoured Cheque (offences) Act, Cap D11 Laws of the Federation, 2004 and punishable under Section 1(1)(b)(i) & (ii) of the same Act.

That you PRINCE THEOPHILUS VOKE OBERIKO being Managing Director of AMALGAMATED PRODUCTION CONTRACTORS sometime in 2014, at Warri, within the jurisdiction of the High Court of Delta State of Nigeria did issue a Diamond Bank Plc Cheque number 28338370 dated 3rd September, 2014 with a face value of Ten Million Naira (10,000,000) only, to Dr. Onuaha Lambert, the said cheque when presented for payment within three months was dishonoured on the ground of insufficient fund standing to the credit of the Account upon which it was drawn and thereby committed an offence contrary to Section 1(1)(b) of the Dishonoured Cheque (offences) Act, Cap D11 Laws of the Federation, 2004 and punishable under Section 1(1)(b)(i) & (ii) of the same Act.

That you PRINCE THEOPHILUS VOKE OBERIKO being Managing Director of AMALGAMATED PRODUCTION CONTRACTORS sometime in 2014, at Warri, within the jurisdiction of the High Court of Delta State of Nigeria did issue a Diamond Bank Plc Cheque number 28338371 dated 4th September, 2014 with a face value of Ten Million Naira (10,000,000) only, to Dr. Onuaha Lambert, the said cheque when presented for payment within three months was dishonoured on the ground of insufficient fund standing to the credit of the Account upon which it was drawn and thereby committed an offence contrary to Section 1(1)(b) of the Dishonoured Cheque (offences) Act, Cap D11 Laws of the Federation, 2004 and punishable under Section 1(1)(b)(i) & (ii) of the same Act.

> Asst, Chief Registrar 11:08:2022

That you PRINCE THEOPHILUS VOKE OBERIKO being Managing Director of AMALGAMATED PRODUCTION CONTRACTORS sometime in 2014, at Warri, within the jurisdiction of the High Court of Delta State of Nigeria did issue a Diamond Bank Plc Cheque number 28338372 dated 1st September, 2014 with a face value of Ten Million Naira (10,000,000) only, to Dr. Onuaha Lambert, the said cheque when presented for payment within three months was dishonoured on the ground of insufficient fund standing to the credit of the Account upon which it was drawn and thereby committed an offence contrary to Section 1(1)(b) of the Dishonoured Cheque (offences) Act, Cap D11 Laws of

WHEREAS

Act.

1. The Defendant is the Managing Director of Amalgamated Production Contractors doing business in the oil and gas industry.

the Federation, 2004 and punishable under Section 1(1)(b)(i) & (ii) of the same

2. That the nominal Complainant Dr. Onuaha Lambert loaned the sum of N30,000,000 (Thirty Million) to the Defendant to carry on his business

3. That Dr. Onuoha Lambert is entitled to the sum of N12,000,000 (twelve Million naira) as interest/return on investment.

THE PARTIES HEREBY AGREE AS FOLLOWS:

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a. The Defendant will defray the total sum of N42,000,000 (Forty-two

b. That the Defendant has paid the sum of N10,000,000 (Ten Million Naira) to Dr. Onuoha Lambert on the 12th day of April 2021, which sum he (Dr. Onuoha Lambert) acknowledges by signing his term of settlement.

c. That the balance sum of N32,000,000 (Thirty-Two Million Naira) will be paid by the Defendant to Dr. Onuoha lambert within 18 months commencing from the date the term of settlement is made judgment of

d. That without prejudice to paragraph 6 above the first instalment of at least N5,000,000 (Five Million Naira) will be paid within 6 months upon this term of settlement being made judgement of court.

e. Parties shall bear their respective costs of litigation.

f. The parties have agreed that these terms shall be the judgment of the court. 147

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The CTC of terms of settlement dated 17th May, 2022 filed 19th May, 2022 Exhibit "A" shall now form part of courts record and for all intents and purposes enforceable in law.

The application to dismiss the information dated 12th July, 2022 under Section 349(1) ACJL Delta State made by defence counsel succeeds and the Defendant is accordingly discharged.

It is my comment per curiam that this case should act as a locus classicus for ADR in diminal law especially where it would encourage restoration of business and contractual relationships amongst investing parties.

The Defendant is also expected to take advantage of this opportunity and comply with the Terms of Settlement reached.

> ANTHONY OL JUDGE 1/02/2022

Asst. Chief Registrar

11:08:2022