

**IBA JUDICIAL INTEGRITY INITIATIVE:  
JUDICIAL ANTI-CORRUPTION COMPACT**

**PREAMBLE**

**Anti-Corruption Declaration**

*This Compact is premised on my solemn adherence to the maintenance and protection of the Rule of Law, and to that end I:*

- *note the need for strict observance of fundamental principles of ethics and integrity in the practice of law;*
- *recognize that any form of corruption severely undermines the effectiveness and legitimacy of the judicial process and the administration of justice;*
- *accept that the judiciary must remain independent and free from all forms of undue influence and interference;*
- *acknowledge that eradicating judicial corruption is critical to fighting corruption elsewhere in government;*
- *affirm the objectives of:*
  - *upholding public confidence in the administration of justice;*
  - *enhancing public respect for the institution of the judiciary, and*
  - *properly protecting the reputation of individual judicial officers and of the judiciary.*

**OPERATIVE**

**Judicial Anti-Corruption Compact**

**ACCORDINGLY I COMMIT** to taking all necessary measures to prevent corrupt practices impacting the judiciary and to observing the following principles in the practice of law.

**General**

1. I will neither commit nor otherwise tolerate any direct or indirect corrupt practices in the judicial process, whether bribery or exercise of undue influence on the judiciary.

2. I will not directly or indirectly solicit, offer, or accept any material or immaterial benefit intended to affect the outcome of a judicial process.
3. I will not directly or indirectly commit or facilitate any acts that undermine judicial independence, including attempts at political, economic, social or any other forms of interference in a judicial process.
4. To the extent that I participate in judicial decision-making or in the administration of a judicial process, I will at all times maintain impartiality and not afford preferential treatment to any individuals, entities, or groups.
5. I will otherwise promote and abide by the applicable local rules of ethical and professional conduct in the legal profession.
6. I will promptly report all violations of these principles or other ethical breaches to the designated authorities and/or the local professional associations.

**Prohibition Against Improper Payments, Gifts and Hospitality**

7. I recognize the need to unequivocally refuse all undue advantage intended to directly or indirectly influence legal professionals in the exercise by them of any official duties, or otherwise compromise the integrity of the judicial process.
8. I will not directly or indirectly demand, accept a promise of, or accept any payments or other benefits from parties actively participating in the judicial process.
9. I will not directly or indirectly promise or provide any payments or other benefits to judges or other court personnel to affect the outcome of a judicial process.
10. I will not directly or indirectly provide or accept gifts and hospitality in my official capacity, with the exception of any *de minimis* gifts and hospitality that are explicitly permitted by local regulations or custom.

**Prohibition Against Undue Influence**

11. I recognize the need to protect the independence and impartiality of the judiciary.
12. I will combat all attempts at exercising undue political, economic, social or any other form of influence over the outcome of, or interference in, a judicial process.

13. If I am a member of the judiciary or court personnel, I will at all times maintain the appearance of and practice impartiality in my official capacity, and particularly when interacting with parties actively engaged in a judicial process.
14. I will neither directly or indirectly seek nor offer preferential treatment in a judicial process to any individuals, entities, or specific interests or political groups.
15. I will not directly or indirectly compromise my role in the judicial decision-making or other aspects of a judicial process in order to obtain or retain political support.

**Reporting Obligations**

16. Subject to any overriding duty of confidentiality to which I may be subject under the laws of [jurisdiction], I will:
  - (a) report in a timely manner any breaches or suspicions of breaches of the above-mentioned principles. Such reports can be made to designated authorities and/or local professional associations that are tasked with prosecuting or disciplining acts of judicial corruption or misuse or abuse of public office.
  - (b) use my best efforts to facilitate and assist the prosecution or disciplining of corrupt conduct, including by offering and providing information, testimony, or other evidence.

**DECLARED AND AFFIRMED** by [INSERT NAME] of [JURISDICTION]

**ON** [INSERT DATE]

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(SIGNATURE)