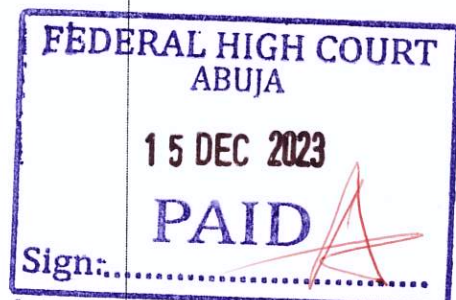


**IN THE FEDERAL HIGH COURT OF NIGERIA**  
**IN THE ABUJA JUDICIAL DIVISION**  
**HOLDEN AT ABUJA**  
**ON FRIDAY, THE 15<sup>TH</sup> DAY OF DECEMBER, 2023**  
**BEFORE HIS LORDSHIP, HON. JUSTICE D. U. OKOROWO**  
**JUDGE**

**SUIT NO: FHC/ABJ/CS/1681/2023**

1. **THE RT. HON. MARTIN CHIKE AMAEWHULE**  
(The Hon. Speaker, Rivers State House of Assembly)
2. **RT. HON. DUMLE MAOL**  
(The Hon. Deputy Speaker, Rivers State House of Assembly)
3. **HON. MAJOR JACK**
4. **HON. LINDA SOMIARI-STWART**
5. **HON. FRANKLIN UCHENNA NWABOCHI**
6. **HON. CHRISTOPHER KAGBANG OFIKS**
7. **HON. AZERU OPARA**
8. **HON. OLABO GEORGE**
9. **HON. TONYE SMART ADOKI**
10. **HON GRANVILLE TEKENARI WELLINGTON**
11. **HON. NGBAR BERNARD**
12. **HON. JOHN DOMINIC IDERIMA**
13. **HON. QUEEN UWUMA TONY WILLIAMS**
14. **HON. LOOLO ISAAH OPUENDE**
15. **HON. ABBEY PETER**
16. **HON. IGWE-OBEY AFORJI**
17. **HON. JUSTINA EMEJI**
18. **HON. IGNATIUS ONWUKA**
19. **HON. CHIMEZIE NWANKWO**
20. **HON. LEMCHI PRINCE NYECHE**
21. **HON. BARILE NWAKOH**
22. **HON. EMILIA LUCKY AMADI**
23. **HON. NKEMJIKA EZEKWE**
24. **HON. DAVIDS ARNOLD IKOBIRIARI**
25. **HON. NWANKWO SYLVANUS**
26. **HON. GERALD OFORJI**

PLAINTIFFS



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ABUJA

*Esther Leva*  
Reg. 1

15/12/23

AND

THE RT. HON. MARTIN CHIKE AMAEWHULE & 26 ORS. V. INEC & 5 ORS.

FHC/ABJ/CS/1681/23

1. **INDEPENDENT NATIONAL ELECTORAL COMMISSION (INEC)**
2. **PEOPLES DEMOCRATIC PARTY (PDP)**
3. **RIVERS STATE HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY**
4. **CLERK OF RIVERS STATE HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY**
5. **INSPECTOR GENERAL OF POLICE**
6. **DEPARTMENT OF STATE SERVICES (DSS)**

**DEFENDANTS/RESPONDENTS**

## **ORDER**

**UPON THIS MOTION EX-PARTE** dated and filed on 13<sup>th</sup> day of December, 2023 praying this Honourable Court for the following reliefs:

1. **AN ORDER OF INTERIM INJUNCTION** restraining the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Defendants/Respondents, either by themselves, their officials, officers, servants, agents, servants, staff or privies (anyhow so called), from declaring vacant or taking any steps whatsoever to declare vacant the seats of the Plaintiffs/Applicants at the Rivers State House of Assembly; from withdrawing the Plaintiff/Applicants' respective Certificates of Return and from conducting fresh elections to fill in the seats of the Plaintiffs/Applicants at the Rivers State House of Assembly, pending the hearing and determination of the Motion on Notice.



*[Handwritten signature]*

**HON. JUSTICE D. U. OKOROWO**  
Presiding Judge

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ABUJA**

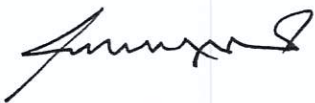
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2. **AN ORDER OF INTERIM INJUNCTION** restraining the 1<sup>st</sup> Defendant/Respondent

from conducting fresh elections to fill the seats of the Plaintiffs/ Applicants in the Rivers State House of Assembly, pending the hearing and determination of the Motion on Notice.

3. **AN ORDER OF INTERIM INJUNCTION** restraining the Defendants/Respondents, jointly and or severally, by themselves or their servants, agents, officials, officers, staff, delegates of other persons deriving authority from them (anyhow so called), from interfering with or impeding in any way or attempting to interfere with or impede in any way the performance of the Plaintiffs' official and legislative functions as the Speaker, the Deputy Speaker and Members, respectively, of the Rivers State House of Assembly, pending the hearing and determination of the Motion on Notice.

4. **AN ORDER OF INTERIM INJUNCTION** restraining the Defendants/Respondents, jointly and or severally, by themselves or their servants, agents, officials, officers, staff, delegates or other persons deriving authority from them (anyhow so called), from interfering with or impeding in any way or attempting to interfere with or impede in any



**HON. JUSTICE D. U. OKOROWO**  
Presiding Judge

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way the full enjoyment of the official rights and privileges of the Plaintiffs/ Applicants as the Speaker, the Deputy Speaker and Members, respectively, of the Rivers State House of Assembly, pending the hearing and determination of the Motion on Notice.

5. **AN ORDER OF INTERIM INJUNCTION**

restraining the 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> Defendants, by themselves, officers, subordinates, servants or agents from denying or refusing to provide security for the Plaintiffs or howsoever withdrawing their security details or personnel or failing to provide adequate security for the Plaintiffs/Applicants for the purpose of enabling the said Plaintiffs/Applicants to continue with the performance of their constitutional legislative and oversight functions as the Speaker, the Deputy Speaker and Members, respectively, of the Rivers State House of Assembly; and or from taking any adverse security measures or step (whatever shape such steps may be) capable preventing or obstructing the Plaintiffs/ Applicants from performing their functions and duties as the Speaker, the Deputy Speaker and Members, respectively, of the Rivers State House of



**HON. JUSTICE D. U. OKOROWO**  
Presiding Judge

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Assembly, pending the hearing and determination of the Motion on Notice.

**AND AFTER READING** Affidavit in support of Motion for Interim Injunction and Affidavit of urgency both sworn to by Right Honourable Martins Chike Amaewhule, Rivers State House of Assembly, Speakers Quarters, Forces Avenue, Port Harcourt, Politician and member of the Rivers State House of Assembly, Male, Christian, Adult, Nigerian Citizen together with Written Address, and Exhibit attached thereto and both filed at this Court's Registry.

**AND AFTER HEARING Peter Onuh Esq.,** moved in terms of Motion paper and urged the Court to grant the Applicant's reliefs:

AND THE HONOURABLE Court having given its Ruling, this 15<sup>th</sup> day of December, 2023.

**IT IS HEREBY ORDERED AS FOLLOWS:**

1. **AN ORDER OF INTERIM INJUNCTION** is hereby granted restraining the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Defendants/Respondents, either by themselves, their officials, officers, servants, agents, servants, staff or privies (anyhow so called), from declaring vacant or taking any

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**HON. JUSTICE D. U. OKOROWO**  
Presiding Judge

steps whatsoever to declare vacant the seats of the Plaintiffs/Applicants at the Rivers State House of Assembly; from withdrawing the Plaintiff/Applicants' respective Certificates of Return and from conducting fresh elections to fill in the seats of the Plaintiffs/Applicants at the Rivers State House of Assembly, pending the hearing and determination of the Motion on Notice.

2. **AN ORDER OF INTERIM INJUNCTION** is hereby granted restraining the 1<sup>st</sup> Defendant/Respondent from conducting fresh elections to fill the seats of the Plaintiffs/Applicants in the Rivers State House of Assembly, pending the hearing and determination of the Motion on Notice.
3. **AN ORDER OF INTERIM INJUNCTION** is hereby granted restraining the Defendants/Respondents, jointly and or severally, by themselves or their servants, agents, officials, officers, staff, delegates of other persons deriving authority from them (anyhow so called), from interfering with or impeding in any way or attempting to interfere with or impede in any way the performance of the Plaintiffs' official and legislative functions as the Speaker, the

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**HON. JUSTICE D. U. OKOROWO**  
Presiding Judge

Deputy Speaker and Members, respectively, of the Rivers State House of Assembly, pending the hearing and determination of the Motion on Notice.

4. **AN ORDER OF INTERIM INJUNCTION** is hereby granted restraining the Defendants/Respondents, jointly and or severally, by themselves or their servants, agents, officials, officers, staff, delegates or other persons deriving authority from them (anyhow so called), from interfering with or impeding in any way or attempting to interfere with or impede in any way the full enjoyment of the official rights and privileges of the Plaintiffs/ Applicants as the Speaker, the Deputy Speaker and Members, respectively, of the Rivers State House of Assembly, pending the hearing and determination of the Motion on Notice.

5. **AN ORDER OF INTERIM INJUNCTION** is hereby granted restraining the 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> Defendants, by themselves, officers, subordinates, servants or agents from denying or refusing to provide security for the Plaintiffs or howsoever withdrawing their security details or personnel or failing to provide adequate security for the Plaintiffs/Applicants

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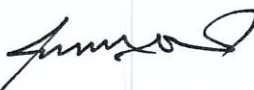
ON. JUSTICE D. U. OKOROWO  
Presiding Judge

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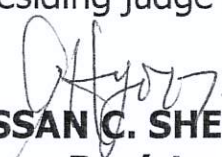
for the purpose of enabling the said Plaintiffs/Applicants to continue with the performance of their constitutional legislative and oversight functions as the Speaker, the Deputy Speaker and Members, respectively, of the Rivers State House of Assembly; and or from taking any adverse security measures or step (whatever shape such steps may be) capable preventing or obstructing the Plaintiffs/ Applicants from performing their functions and duties as the Speaker, the Deputy Speaker and Members, respectively, of the Rivers State House of Assembly, pending the hearing and determination of the Motion on Notice.

  
**HON. JUSTICE D. U. OKOROWO**  
Presiding Judge

6. The Applicant is hereby ordered to undertake damages in the sum of **₦250,000,000.00. (Two hundred and fifty million naira)** only.
7. That this case is adjourned to 28<sup>th</sup> day of December, 2023 for hearing of Motion on Notice.

  
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15/12/23  
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**ISSUED AT ABUJA** under the seal of the Court and the hand of the presiding judge this 15<sup>th</sup> day of December, 2023

  
**HASSAN C. SHEKARAH**  
*Registrar*