SIMPLIFIED SERIES OF THE LAGOS STATE LAWS

LAGOS STATE ADMINISTRATION LAW, 2025

INTRODUCTION

A Law to provide for the Local Government System, Establishment, Administration and to Consolidate all Laws on Local Government Administration in Lagos State was signed into Law by His Excellency Governor Babajide Olusola Sanwo-Olu on the 4th of August, 2025.

THE SIMPLIFIED CONTENTS OF THE LAW ARE AS FOLLOWS:

1. DEMOCRATIC LOCAL GOVERNMENT SYSTEM ELECTION

The Law provides that Local Government system in the State must be by democratically elected councils as guaranteed in the Constitution.

This means that:

- Local Government Chairmen must be elected;
- Local Government Vice Chairmen must be elected; and
- Councillors must also be elected to represent their wards.

In simple terms, Local Governments leadership comes from elections and not appointments.

This Law allows existing elected officials to continue in office at the commencement of the law in order to avoid administrative disruption.

Also requires Local Governments to participate actively in economic planning and developments within their area.

2. STRUCTURE AND FUNDING OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREAS (LGAs) AND LOCAL COUNCIL DEVELOPMENT AREAS (LCDAs)

The Law established that there must be twenty (20) Local Government Areas in the State as specified in the constitution and now recognizes the thirty-seven (37) Local Council Development Areas in the State and elections must be conducted for the Local Governments.

Under the Law, the LGAs are constitutionally recognized and receive federal allocation. The Law also provides that each Local Council Development Area in the state is to be funded by the Local Government Areas under which it falls.

This Law allows existing contracts, rights, and responsibilities of LCDAs to remain valid and enforceable. LCDAs can manage projects and deliver services within their territories. They cannot deny responsibility by claiming they are “only” LCDAs. Communities therefore have the right to hold LCDA officials accountable for their actions and projects.

3. DIVISION OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT INTO WARDS

This Law allows each Local Government Area to be divided into not less than four (4) wards and not more than Forty (40) wards. Every ward in the Local Governments must have a Councillor elected.

The Councillor's duty is to represent the interest of the people in that ward and ensure that their concerns are brought before their council.

The Law provides that all Councillors together form the Local Government Council, which is the legislative arm of the Local Government.

4. SITTING AND DISSOLUTION OF THE COUNCIL

Under the Law to ensure that the Council remain active and effective, Council must sit for a period of not less than One Hundred and Eighty (180) days in a year.

The Council make bye-laws, approve the annual budgets, confirmation of appointments made by the Chairman etc. The Law also states that the Council is dissolved at the expiration of four (4) years.

5. ESTABLISHMENT OF OFFICES OF CHAIRMAN AND VICE-CHAIRMAN

The Law establishes that there must be a chairman and a vice-chairman for each Local Government Area and Local Council Development Area.

6. QUALIFICATION AND DISQUALIFICATION OF CHAIRMAN, VICE-CHAIRMAN / COUNCILLORS

The Chairman is the Chief Executive Officer of the Local Government and is responsible for the day to day administration of the Council. Section 19 and Section 41 of the Law provides that a person is qualified to hold the Office of the Chairman/Councillor, if the person–

a. is a citizen of Nigeria;

b. attained the age of Twenty-Five (25) Years;

c. must have a minimum of Secondary School Certificate.

The Law also provides in Section 20 and Section 42 that a person will not be qualified to hold the office of a Chairman, Vice-Chairman/Councillor if the person;

a. is a lunatic or of unsound mind;

b. has been given a death sentence;

c. contravene the code of conduct for Public Officers;

d. is a member of a secret society;

e. has been indicted for embezzlement or fraud.

7. APPOINTMENT OF POLITICAL APPOINTEES

- The Law empowered the Chairman to appoint the following political appointees subject to the confirmation of the Council–

a. five (5) supervisors;

b. two (2) Special Advisers;

c. one Secretary to the Local Government Area; and

d. one Chief of Staff.

8. DECLARATION OF ASSETS, LIABILITIES AND OATHS

The Law states that a Chairman/Council must declare its assets and liabilities as prescribed by the Code of Conduct for Public Officers before beginning to perform the functions of the Office.

9. TENURE OF OFFICE

Under the Law, the tenure of office of a chairman is four (4) years and can be elected for another four (4) years unless the person becomes;

a. President, Vice-President, Governor, Deputy-Governor, Minister or a Commissioner;

b. Member of the legislative house;

c. a member of another political party before the expiration of the term;

d. dies whilst holding office;

e. resigns from office;

f. Member of a secret society.

This Law considers a Vice-Chairman to have served a full term, regardless of duration where he assumes the office of the Chairman due to any circumstances.

10. RECALL PROCESS OF A COUNCILLOR

A councilor may be recalled if a petition is presented to the Chairman on behalf of the ward, and more than half of the registered voters agree alleging their loss of confidence in that Councillor and the petition is approved within Ninety (90) days in which the petition was submitted.

11. FUNCTIONS OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT

The responsibilities of the Local Government Areas in the community are as follows–

a. the formulation of economic plans and development schemes;

b. collection of rates and issuance of radio and television licenses;

c. establishment and the maintenance of cemeteries, burial grounds and homes for the destitute;

d. licencing of bicycles, trucks, canoes, wheel barrows and carts;

e. establishment, maintenance and regulation of slaughter house, markets, motor parks;

f. construction and maintenance of roads, street lights, drains, parks, gardens and oba's palace;

g. naming of roads, streets and numbering of houses;

h. provision and maintenance of public conveniences, sewage and refuse disposal;

i. registration of all births, deaths and marriages;

j. the provision and maintenance of primary, adult and vocational education;

k. the development of agriculture and natural resources, other than the exploitation of minerals;

l. the provision and maintenance of health services.

MEANING OF SOME WORDS

"Appointment" means appointment in an office, confirmation of appointment, promotion or transfer;

"Electoral Commission" means the Lagos State Independent Electoral Commission;

"Local Governments" includes Local Government Areas and Local Council Development Area;

"Oath" means affirmation;

"Office" means any of the political offices, the appointment to which is by election, selection, or nomination;

"Officer" means a person working in the Local Government/ Local Council Development Area who is not a political appointee;

"School Certificate or its equivalent" includes–

a. A Secondary School Certificate or Grade II Teacher's Certificate, the City and Guilds Certificate; Education up to Secondary School Certificate level; or Primary Six Certificate; and

b. Service in the public or private sector of the federation for a minimum of 10 years.

"Recall Process" means removal of elected officials from office before their term ends i.e. "a vote of no confidence" by the people and not the government.

THE LAGOS STATE CATTLE PROHIBITION LAW 2021

1. The Law came into force in the year 2021.
2. The Law established the Lagos State Cattle Task Force (referred to in this Law as the Cattle Task Force) and prohibit open cattle grazing in the State.
3. The Objectives of the Law includes encouraging enclosed grazing in designated land in the State as may be allocated by the State Government, preventing the destruction of crops, farms, community settlement and property caused by open grazing activities, preventing clashes between nomadic cattle herders, crop farmers and community settlers, optimizing the use of land in the face of increasing population, preventing environmental degradation and pollution caused by open grazing and preventing cattle rearing and grazing in developed residential and commercial areas of the State.
4. The Law prohibits any person that owns or is in control of cattle from causing or permitting such cattle to graze on any land that does not belong to the owner of the cattle, or is not within an area designated for cattle grazing. A person who contravenes the provision commits an offence and is liable on conviction to a fine of Fifty Thousand Naira (₦50,000.00) per head of cattle and payment for the costs incurred in impounding, transporting and maintaining the damages done to the property(ies) on the order of court. A Cattle impounded shall be claimed within seven (7) days or be liable to permanent forfeiture by Order of Court. All unclaimed cattle under this Law shall be publicly auctioned. Where a person whose cattle is impounded is charged to Court under the provisions of this Law, a record shall be kept by the Court of particulars such as the photograph, address and phone number of such owner or person in control of the cattle. Any person who owns or is in control of cattle and is a second time offender, shall on conviction be liable to permanent forfeiture of the cattle and a fine of One Hundred Thousand Naira (₦100,000.00), or permanent forfeiture of the cattle and a term of one (1) year custodial sentence, or both.
5. The Law allows any person that owns or is in control of cattle to graze in an enclosed land after obtaining an approval and such approval shall not be granted where the enclosed land is within a residential area.
6. The Law prohibits any person from selling or transferring any leased land to a cattle rearer for enclosed grazing or any other related purposes in the State and any person who contravenes this law commit an offence and is liable on conviction to a fine of Ten Million Naira (₦10,000,000.00) or a term of five (5) years custodial sentence or both.
7. The Law requires any person or association who intends to operate a cattle business in the State to seek approval, such approval with particulars of such registration shall be entered in a register to be maintained in the Ministry of Agriculture.
8. It is an offence for any person to be found to be in possession of firearms, while herding cattle and such a person is liable on conviction to twenty-one (21) years custodial sentence while any person found to be in possession of a dangerous weapon or object, while herding cattle, with intent to wound or cause grievous bodily harm, to another person commits an offence and is liable on conviction to a term of fourteen (14) years custodial sentence.

9. The Law establishes cattle pounds in designated places within the State, it shall be under the control of the Ministry and the cost for impounding, transporting, and maintaining impounded cattle shall be as prescribed by the Ministry.

10. The Law allows the Commissioner to appoint officers from the Ministry as cattle pound keepers and every cattle pound keeper shall take charge of, feed and water the cattle until they are disposed of as prescribed, keep necessary register(s) of all cattle brought into the pound by entering the number and description of the cattle, time and date, name, address and phone number of the Law enforcement Officer who seized the cattle, name, address and phone number of the owner(s) or person(s) in charge of the cattle if known and location where the cattle were impounded and furnish returns as directed by the Commissioner in fulfilment of the provision of this Law.

11. The Law provides that injured cattle in the Cattle Pound shall be attended to by a Veterinary Officer and in the case of death, a proper investigation of the cause of death shall be documented.

12. The Law protects a cattle pound keeper or an authorised officer from prosecution from acts done or omissions made in course of carrying out the duties of the office.

13. The Law establishes the Lagos State Cattle Task Force for the purpose of enforcing the provisions of this Law. The Cattle Task Force shall have units located in every cattle pound established within the State, have the power to collaborate with the Commissioner of Police concerning the prohibition of open cattle grazing and shall comprise of officers from the Ministry and law enforcement officers within the State.

14. The Law allows the Cattle Task Force to co-opt persons from within the community, but such person shall not be regarded as an officer of the Cattle Task Force.

15. The Law prohibits any cattle found grazing on any land in contravention and the owner or occupier of the land that the cattle is found grazing on or any resident of the State may make a report to the Cattle Task Force and all impounded cattle shall be taken to the nearest cattle pound.

16. The Law provides for Law enforcement officers when required, aid in preventing resistance to the lawful impounding of cattle and ensure the prevention of the breakdown of law and order.

17. The Law provides for the reporting of impounding of cattle to be made before the Special Offences Court and the Court shall make such consequential order(s) as it deem necessary in accordance with the provisions of this Law.

18. Any person who forcibly opposes, retrieves the cattle after impounding, either from a cattle pound or from any person taking or about to take them to a cattle pound, commits an offence and is liable on conviction to a maximum fine of **Two Hundred and Fifty Thousand Naira (₦250,000.00) or a maximum term of six (6) months custodial sentence or both**.

19. The Law provides that the list of costs for impounding, transporting, and maintaining cattle shall be posted in a conspicuous place on every pound and the fines levied together with the expenses of sale, if any shall be deducted from the proceeds of sale of the impounded cattle on the order of court.

20. The Law provides for the procedure when owner claims the cattle and pays the fines and costs.

    (a) The court shall order the release of cattle where the owner has paid all the fines and costs

(b) The cattle pound keeper shall release the cattle to the owner upon the order of court.

(c) The owner on taking possession of the cattle shall sign in the register kept by the cattle pound keeper.

21. The Law provides where any owner appears before the expiration of the Seven (7) days deadline and fails to pay the fines and costs, all the cattle impounded shall be sold by public auction on the order of court at the cattle pound by the cattle pound keeper. The balance of the sale from the auction shall be released to the owner together with an account showing the number of cattle seized, the time during which they have been impounded, the amount of costs incurred, the number of cattle sold, the proceeds of sale and the way those proceeds have been disposed of and any other costs including any veterinary treatment in respect of any cattle shall in the event of a conviction, be paid by the owner.

22. The Law provides that a receipt shall be given to the Owner for the release and for the balance of the proceeds from the sale for the auctioned cattle (if any).

23. The Law allows any person to make a report to the Cattle Task Force concerning any cattle trespassing on any land and doing damage to the land or to any crop or produce on it, so that they may be impounded and taken to the nearest cattle pound.

24. The Law allows any person in charge of any road, park, canal, drainage-works, embankment etc. to make a report to the Cattle Task Force concerning any cattle doing damage to such road, park, canal drainage-works, embankment so that they may be impounded and taken to the nearest cattle pound.

25. The Law provides for any person in possession of cattle to ensure proper transportation of cattle from the enclosed grazing land to the market and cattle shall not be left to graze on land not approved for enclosed grazing.

26. The Law provides that any damage caused by any cattle to land, property, farm product, roads, park, canals, drainage-works, embankments shall be valued by an agricultural or engineering officer of the State. The report of such valuation shall be tendered before the court and on the order of the court, the owner or person in charge of the cattle shall pay for such damage.

LAGOS STATE CONSUMER PROTECTION AGENCY LAW

1. The Law came into force in the year 2015.

2. The Law established the Lagos State Consumer Protection Agency (hereafter "the Agency") with the objectives of promoting and protecting the rights of the consumer, protection of consumers against marketing of goods and services which are hazardous to life, the right to be informed about the quality, quantity, potency, purity, standard and price of goods and services, protection of consumer against unfair trade practices, and the right to seek redress against unscrupulous exploitation of consumers, the right to be heard and assured that the interest of consumers will receive due consideration at appropriate fora, and the right to consumer education and awareness.

3. The Agency is required to have an office in every Local Government and Local Council Development Area in the State and is saddled with the following functions among others including the following:

    - Ensure speedy redress of consumer complaints through negotiation, mediation or conciliation.
    - Advise the State Government on consumer protection policies.
    - Ensure the replacement of hazardous products with safe products and seek ways and means of eliminating hazardous products from the market in conjunction with the relevant government agencies.
    - Initiate investigation in its own name whether upon the receipt of a complaint or not.
    - Publish from time to time the list of products the consumption and sale of which have been banned, withdrawn, restricted or not approved by the appropriate Federal Government Agencies.
    - Cause an offending company, firm, trade association or individual to compensate or provide relief to injured consumers or communities as a result of adverse effects of harmful products
    - Organize and undertake campaign, lectures, seminars or other forms of activities that may lead to increased public consumer awareness, enlightenments and conduct public information campaigns for the purpose of educating and advising consumers in relations to consumer protections and welfare.
    - Encourage trade, industry and professional associations to develop and enforce in their various fields, quality standards designed to safeguard the interest of consumers.
    - Encourage the formation of voluntary consumer groups or association for the interest of the consumers
    - Cause where necessary, quality tests to be conducted on a consumer product
    - Apply to court to prevent the circulation of any product which constitutes an imminent public hazard, enforce and protect the right of consumers, or seek relief or compensation for injured consumers where negotiation, conciliation or mediation fails.

4. The Law creates liability for defective products and impose liability for damage caused by such products caused wholly or partly by a defect in a product on the following categories of persons:
a) the producer of the product

b) any person who, by putting his name on the product, or using a trademark or other distinguished mark in relation to the product, has held himself out to be the producer of the product, or

c) any person who has imported the product into the State, in the course of any business of his, in order to supply it to another.

5. The Law allows a consumer, any recognized consumer association, numerous consumers having the same interest, the State Government or Local Government as the case may be, either in its individual capacity or as a representative of the interest of the consumers in general to make a complaint to the Agency in relation to any goods sold or delivered or any service provided or agreed to be provided.

6. On receipt of a complaint made under Section 14(1) of the Law, the Agency may allow the complaint to be proceeded with or be rejected within seven (7) days from the date of the receipt of the complaint, unless an opportunity of being heard has been given to the complainant.

7. The Law provides procedure on Receipt of complaint under Section 15. The procedure provided by the Law enables the Agency to investigate the complaint and to take necessary steps in that regard. The Agency is empowered to refer the sample of the product for laboratory analysis after the person complained against has paid a deposit of the sum required by the Agency to conduct the laboratory test.

8. The Agency if satisfied that the goods, services complained are defect and proven, it shall issue an Order to the person complained against directing him to do one or more of the following things:

- remove the defect pointed out by the appropriate laboratory from the goods in question, replace the goods with new goods of similar description which shall be free from any defect, return to the complainant the price or the charges paid for the services, pay the awarded compensation for any loss or injury suffered, remove the defect or deficiencies in the services in question, discontinue the unfair or restrictive trade practices and not to repeat them, not to offer the hazardous goods for sale and withdraw the hazardous goods from being offered for sale

9. The Law allows on the application of the complainant and in the interest of justice transfer any complaint pending before any of its offices to the Agency.

10. Under this Law, if an offence is committed by a Company and is proven to have been attributable to any neglect on the part of any person being a Director, Manager, Secretary, or any other Officer or a person purporting to act in any such capacity, that person as well as the company is liable to be proceeded against and punished as if that person commits the first mentioned offence.

11. By virtue of this Law any person who has suffered damage caused by a defect in a product or to a dependent or relative of such a person, shall not be limited or excluded by any contract term notice, or any other provision.

12. Under the Law, an Inspection Officer of the Agency may serve personally or by post a compliance notice signed and dated which shall contain a statement of the alleged contravention and the reasons. A person who fails to comply with compliance direction and requirement on summary convictions, is liable to the fines and penalties provided under the Law.

13. The Law requires a complaint to be filed within six (6) months from the date on which the cause of action arose unless the complainant shows sufficient cause for not filing the complaint within the stipulated period.

14. The Agency may designate as an Inspector such number of its staff and shall issue a certificate of designation and identification showing his name, position and such other information that the person is a staff of the Agency.

15. Under this Law an inspection officer in his cause of his duty at any reasonable time and upon the production of the certificate of designation enter any premises for the purpose of conducting an investigation, examine or take samples or specimen of any goods or product, open and examine whilst on the premises, any container or package which may assist him in his investigation, examine any book, document or other records found on the premises which may contain an information relevant to the enforcement of this Law or any regulation made and make copies thereof and seize and detain specimen or sample already taken until the conclusion of the investigation by the Agency. The owner or person in charge of any premises entered into by an inspection Officer shall give all reasonable assistance to the Inspection Officer.

16. The Law empowers the Agency where its Order is not complied with to apply to the High Court to enforce such Order and the person aggrieved by an order may prefer an appeal against such Order to the High Court within thirty (30) days from the date of the Order and the Rules of Civil Procedure applicable in the High Court shall apply to all applications. The Governor may direct the Chief Judge of the State to designate such number of Courts as he deems fit, as Consumer Courts.

17. The Law provides that a person who commits an offence under the Law is liable on conviction to a fine not exceeding Five Hundred Thousand Naira (₦500,000.00) or imprisonment for a term not exceeding three (3) months or both and on any subsequent conviction for the same offence or any other offence under this law, to a fine not less than Seven Hundred and Fifty Thousand Naira (₦750,000.00) or imprisonment for a term not less than six months.

18. The Law provides that a person convicted of an offence and on application of the Agency, the Court may, in addition to any fine or penalty imposed, order the person to publish, at the person's expense and in any manner the Court considers appropriate the facts relating to the commission of the offence and a corrective statement in respect of those facts. The Court may, based on the submissions of the Agency in the application and as Court considers appropriate, specify the form and content of the corrective Statement in respect of those facts.

LAGOS STATE LOTTERIES AND GAMING LAW 2021

1. The Law came into force in year 2021 comprising of, Responsible Gaming Regulations 2021, Casino and Gaming Regulations 2021, Online and Retail Gaming Regulations 2021 and Remote Gaming Regulations 2021.

2. The Objectives of the Law is to regulate, license and register gaming operators and premises, set standards for the operations of lotteries and gaming activities and for gaming operators, their agents, key employees and impose appropriate fees and penalties, collect levies on all licenses and monitor all gaming activities within the State.

3. Lagos State Lotteries and Gaming Authority (the Authority) is established by the Law and saddled with functions among others including the following:

- to protect the interest of the State with respect to all gaming activities and benefits due to the State, ensure that the interests of all stakeholders in the State are adequately protected,
- receive and consider applications for the issue, amendment or transfer of licenses, refuse applications, suspend, revoke or cancel licenses, --monitor retail ticket sale and-conduct proper audit of licenses' by using information technology, a central monitoring system, standard based solutions, comprehensive and automated processing,
- liaise and cooperate with national and international bodies where appropriate, organise monitoring teams and conduct inspections in order to ensure compliance with the Law.

4. The Law empowers the Authority to issue different Licenses to gaming operators which includes:

- to issue retail, virtual and/or on-line operating licenses in respect of Casino, bingo, pool betting, sports betting or bookmaker operating license which include but not limited to:
- Lottery; combined licenses; agent or affiliate; slots or gaming machine; car racing; horse racing and other games; other lotteries, scratch card; remote gaming, and amusement machine.
- The Authority may create new license categories and issue different licenses or authorisation for activities which are closely related to any of the gaming categories under the law

5. Permits: The Authority may issue permits for activities that falls under other games, but do not require a license and non-commercial and private gaming activities to operate within stipulated terms and conditions.

6. Application for and grant of a license – The law sets out several requirements that must be met before the Authority grants a license including the followings amongst others:

(a) the applicant must be a registered company under the Companies and Allied Matters Act with a minimum share capital of ₦20,000,000 (Twenty Million Naira) or as may be directed by the Authority;

(b) the applicant must have a local content shareholder with a minimum of fifteen percent (15%) shareholding or submission of Fifty Million Naira (₦50,000,000.00) bank guarantee or surety bond from any licensed commercial bank or other financial institution;

(c) the local content shareholder shall abide by the regulations, policies terms and conditions issued by the Authority;

(d) the applicant must have sufficient and appropriate knowledge or experience to conduct gaming activities in the State; and

(e) It is an offence for any person who in the course of applying for a license deliberately makes a false statement of material fact or omits to state in any such application any material fact required to be stated and presents a misleading statement as a material fact, punishable on conviction to: (i) a maximum fine of Five Million Naira (₦5,000,000.00) or imprisonment for up to three (3) months; or (ii) fine and imprisonment; or (iii) fine and six (6) months non-custodial sentence and such other requirement as stated in the law.

7. The Authority when issuing, varying, or transferring a license or permit, may after due consideration revoke or amend the terms and conditions on an application or an existing license in respect of (a) the place or places of business; (b) where the business shall or shall not be situated; (c) appropriate levies or any other charges; (d) rules of competitions; (e) advertisement; (f) restriction of persons or category of persons from participating; (g) the appropriate bank guarantee (h) licensed activity; (i) pay-outs or proportion of stakes to be paid out; (j) limiting amounts that may be staked; (k) limiting the amount or value of a prize or class of prizes; (l) rules of the game; (m) imposing requirements that are specific to a game and any matter provided for in this Law.

The Law provides for an approval in principle on fulfilment of all license application requirements, and approval in principle shall be valid for a period of ninety (90) days. On fulfilment of the approval in principle conditions, the applicant shall be issued with a substantive license, provided the Authority is satisfied that there has been substantial compliance by the applicant with the temporary license conditions and where a license has been granted, the licensee has a maximum period of three (3) months to comply with the new terms and conditions issued by the Authority.

8. Disqualification of a License Application –

(1) An application for a license shall not be granted if the applicant, or any person who has a controlling or financial interest in the business –

(a) is insolvent;

(b) is incapacitated or not of sound mind;

(c) has at any time been removed from an office of trust on account of misconduct;

(d) is not a fit and proper person to be involved in the business concerned;

(e) is a public servant;

(f) is a member of a State House of Assembly or a Local Government Authority or any Commission;

(g) is a political office holder or an employee of any movement, organisation or body that is political in nature;

(h) is below the age of eighteen (18) years;

(i) has at any time been convicted, in Nigeria or elsewhere, of any offence; or

(j) has taken part or has been associated with any practice which is deceitful, prejudicial or discreditable.

(2) A license shall not be granted to – (a) the State or a local Government; or

(b) any person in whom the State or Local Government has a controlling or financial interest or any other interest.

9. Fee – (1) on applying for a License to be granted under the provision of Section 35, the applicant, shall pay to the Authority the prescribed fee.

(2) On the grant of the License, the licensee shall pay to the Authority the prescribed fee or levy in compliance with the Law.

(3) The prescribed penalty on late payment of such fee or levy, shall be as prescribed in the Regulations made under the provisions of this Law.

10. Duration of License – (1) All licenses shall be valid for one (1) year except a lottery license which shall be valid for ten (10) years (2) Licenses are renewable subject to the satisfactory performance of the conditions of the grant of the License as stated in this Law. (3) The Authority may periodically review the duration of each category of license.

11. Register of License – The Authority shall (a) maintain a register or website of operating licenses containing such details relating to each license and licensee as the Authority deem appropriate; (b) make the register or website available for inspection by members of the public at all reasonable times; and keep an updated list forwarded to it by a license of all its agents and affiliates every month.

12. Renewal of License – Where a license has been granted, a license may before the expiration of the license apply for a renewal of the license. However, renewal of the license is subject to the license's fulfilment of all the conditions prescribed in this Law and the Regulations made under it, including the payment of renewal fees.

13. Validity of a License – A license shall continue to be valid until the – licensee fails to pay the annual license renewal fee (b) fails to pay all stipulated fees and levies; (c) ceases to conduct business for a continuous period of six (6) months without securing the Authority's approval.

14. Transfer of License – (1) A person desiring to obtain a transfer of a license issued under the Law shall apply for the transfer with the consent of the holder of the license and such other requirement as stated in the law.

15. Revocation of a License – The Law empowers the Authority to revoke any License granted under this Law.

16. Suspension of Operations – The Authority may order a suspension of operations as from the date of service of that notice for a period not longer than thirty (30) working days after the licensee has furnished those reasons and the licensee with the consent of the Authority may suspend its operations voluntarily for a period not more than six (6) months in its operating year.

17. Termination of License – Notwithstanding the provisions of this law on revocation of a license, the Authority may at its discretion terminate sales by any gaming operator at the expiration of seven (7) days demand notice in respect of defaults in payment of proceeds due to the Authority, sells or vends tickets off-line or in an unprescribed manner; fails to handle gaming funds in a prescribed manner; fails to observe the terms and conditions of its license or any appendix to the license, regulation or provisions passed under the law; or when such termination is in the best interest of the State.

18. Prohibition of Gaming Activities without Authorisation: The law creates several offences relating to prohibited gaming activities without authorisation. One of such offences is one providing that a person shall not operate, promote, manage, distribute a plan, scheme, competition, prize or dividend, arrangement, system, game device, or equipment which directly or indirectly provides for betting or accepts wagers, gaming or playing any game of chance, issue a dividend or prize whether remotely or otherwise in the State except where (a) it is conducting the appropriate licensed activity under this Law; (b) it is authorised for non-commercial gaming activity under this Law; or (c) it falls under gaming for private purposes. A person who violates the provision of this section commits an offence and is liable on conviction to imprisonment for a term not exceeding three (3) years or a minimum fine of Five Million Naira (₦5,000,000.00) or both.

19. Prohibition of Credit for Gaming Activities- A person shall not provide credit or arrange or assist or induce anyone to increase their participation in any licensed gaming activity.

20. Prohibition of Lotteries and Gaming Activities in Public Places – A person shall not conduct any lottery or gaming activity on a Street or other public places except where – (a) a lottery or gaming competition is carried on as an activity of a club;

    (b) an application for a lottery or gaming competition is carried on for and by social and charitable organisations that may be granted on special conditions by the Authority or

    (c) a lottery or gaming competition is conducted as an entertainment promoted for raising money to be applied for purposes other than private gain, where the organisers had first obtained the approval of the Authority, who may prescribe conditions for such lottery or gaming competition.

21. Cheating- A person who –

    (a) cheats in a game;

    (b) participates in an activity or activities for the purpose of enabling or assisting another person to cheat in a game;

    (c) engages in hedging or arbitrage betting using multiple accounts with the same operator for the purpose of profit;

    (d) creates multiple accounts on a platform for the purpose of abusing bonus offers;

    (e) is a party to match fixing either by point shaving, spot fixing or any other method relating to the alteration of the outcome of an event and is kept secret with the aim to deceive; or

(f) interferes, uses or make available, altered, marked, adjusted or otherwise modified playing cards, dice, wheel, device, machine, equipment, software or apparatus for the purpose of deceiving players; commit an offence and is liable on conviction to:

(i) a maximum fine of One Million Naira (₦1,000,000.00) or imprisonment for up to one (1) year; or
(ii) fine and imprisonment; or
(iii) fine and eighteen (18) months non-custodial sentence.

22. Seizure and Forfeiture –

(1) Any object or device used or capable of being used for cheating at a game may be seized by a Law Enforcement Officer or an Inspection Officer.

(2) Any object or device in subsection (1) may not be returned to the owner or any other person and must be retained or destroyed in the manner determined by the Authority.

23. Fraudulent Acts – A person who –

(1) alters or misrepresents the outcome of a game or other event on which wagers have been made after the outcome is determined but before it is revealed to the players;

(2) places, increases or decreases a bet or determines the course of play after acquiring knowledge, not available to all players, of the outcome of the game or which is the subject of the bet or aid anyone in acquiring such knowledge for the purpose of placing, increasing or decreasing a bet or determining the course of play;

(3) claims, collects or takes, or attempts to claim, collect or take money or anything of value in or from any gaming activity, with intent to defraud, without having made a wager, or to claim, collect or take an amount greater than the amount won; or

(4) manipulates with the intent to cheat, alters any component of a gaming device in a manner contrary to the designed and normal operational purpose of the component commits an offence and liable on conviction to – (a) a maximum fine of One Million Naira (₦1,000,000.00) or imprisonment for a term not exceeding two (2) years; or (c) fine and one (1) year non-custodial sentence.

24. Underage and Vulnerable Persons – The law prohibits licensees or their employees from inviting, causing or permitting any underage or vulnerable person to play, place or engage in a lottery or gaming activity either personally or through an agent. The law also prohibits licensees or their employees from allowing an underage person to enter or remain in the gaming area or premises or employing or engaging an underaged person to operate, run a gaming equipment or activity, or perform any other function under the Law.

25. The Law also contains Responsible Gaming Regulations 2021, Casino and Gaming Regulations 2021, Online and Retail Gaming Regulations 2021 and Remote Gaming Regulations 2021. These Regulations further govern different aspects of gaming in Lagos State.

UNLAWFUL SOCIETIES AND CULTISM (PROHIBITION LAW) 2021

1. The Law came into force on the 15th day of March, 2021.

2. The objective of the Law is to eradicate the menace of cultism and unlawful societies in Lagos State.

3. (1) The Law prohibits persons resident in the State from being members of Secret Cults and Unlawful Societies.

(2) A person is presumed to be a member of a secret cult or secret society in some instances which include a person-

(a) Attending a meeting of any Cult or Unlawful Society; or
(b) Identifying with or inducing a person to become a member of a Cult or Unlawful Society.

(3) The penalty for being a member of a Secret Society on conviction is a term of prison imprisonment for 21 years.

4. The Law prohibits the formation of a Cult or Secret Society. Any person who forms a Cult or Unlawful Society is guilty of an offence and the penalty on conviction is a term of prison for 15 years.

5. (1) The Law prohibits any person from forming a Cult or Secret Society. Any person who compels any one to join a Cult or Unlawful Society through intimidation or force is guilty of an offence and is on conviction liable to a term of imprisonment of fifteen years (15).

(2) Any person who injures a person or violently compels or injures anyone to compel such person to join a Cult or Unlawful Society is guilty of an offence and is on conviction liable to a term of imprisonment for twenty-one years (21) years.

(3) Any person who compels a person to join a Cult or an Unlawful Society through threat of any firearm or any other offensive weapon is guilty of an offence and is liable on conviction to a term of imprisonment of twenty-one (21) years.

(4) Where a victim dies in the course of being forced to join a Cult or Unlawful Society every person involved in the act that causes the death are all guilty of an offence and on conviction shall all be liable to a term of life imprisonment.

6. Where a person swears to an oath of a Cult or Secret Society and attends the meeting of such Cult or Unlawful Society such person cannot plead the defence of compulsion when arraigned in any court for breaching the provisions of this Law.

7. Any member of a Cult or Unlawful Society who unlawfully burns any premises or uses a deadly weapon or uses acid or any chemical on any premises that endangers the lives of those in the premises at that point in time commits an offence and is liable on conviction to a term of imprisonment for twenty-one (21) years.

8. (1) The Law prohibits the operation of any unregistered society in any higher institution of learning within the State.

(2) Before any society operates within any higher institution in the State such society must first register with the Students Affairs Department of that higher institution and its objects shall conform with the norms of the promotion of learning, social development and citizen behavior, before it can be registered.

(3) Any society that operates without first being registered shall be illegal and shall be proscribed immediately.

9. (1) Where it is alleged that any student is a member of any Cult or any Secret Society, The Governing Council of that higher institution shall have the power to-
   (a) Suspend such student; and
   (b) Initiate investigations in respect of such allegation.
   (2) When the investigation has been concluded, if such student is found to be a member of a Cult or an Unlawful Society, such student shall be expelled from the higher institution his/her name shall be published in a newspaper widely circulated in the State as a Cult or Unlawful Society member.

10. The Law gives the Governing Council of every higher institution in the State the power to make rules and regulations relating to curbing cultism and unlawful societies in such institution.

11. The Law makes it an offence for parents or guardians who are aware that their child/ward is a member of a secret cult and fail to report to the appropriate authority. The penalty on conviction for failure to report such child or ward is a fine of five hundred thousand (500,000) Naira,

12. The Law allows any victim of the activities of cult or secret societies to sue for civil damages after prosecution of the offender.

THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE SEX OFFENDERS REGISTER AND CONNECTED PURPOSES 2021

1. The Law came into force on the 15th day of September 2021.
2. The Objectives of this Law includes amongst others: -

   (i). The protection of the rights of survivors of domestic and sexual/gender-based violence offences in the State and from discrimination and stigmatization.

   (ii). Create a Sexual Offender's Register and database in the State.

   (iii). Protect and prohibit the publication of the identity of survivor of domestic and sexual violence offence.

3. The law established in all Local Government Areas in the State, a sexual and gender violence desk for the purpose of serving as the first responders to incidences of sexual and gender based violence.
4. The Law prohibits several acts of Sexual offences as follows:

(a) Several acts of Child Pornography including engaging in any visual depiction of sexually explicit conduct involving a child punishable with fourteen (14) years imprisonment.

(b) The Law prohibits any police officer/public servants/a staff of a correctional institution or a staff of an hospital etc who takes advantage or have sexual intercourse or sexual relations with a person in custody. The Offence is punishable with fourteen (14) years custodial sentence.

(c) The Law prohibits a Lecturer/teacher from engaging having sexual relations in exchange for grades with a student under the lecturer/teacher's tutoring or for the purpose of getting a person admitted into any school or institution in the State. The offence is punishable with three (3) years custodial sentence and in addition to any other disciplinary action which may be taken by the school or institution.

(d) The Law prohibits any defrauding or concealing an offence or frustrating investigation, prosecution, etc. The offence is punishable by a custodial sentence not more than three (3) years.

(e) It is an offence under the Law for any person who wilfully makes false statement, whether oral or documentary, in any judicial proceedings under this law or with the aim of initiating investigation or criminal proceedings under this Law against another person. The offence is punishable by a fine of Seven Hundred and Fifty Thousand naira (=N=750,000.00) or a custodial sentence not exceeding three (3) years.

(f) The Law prohibits incest where a person knowingly and wilfully has carnal knowledge of another of the same blood with or without consent. The offence attracts a minimum term of five

(5) years custodial sentence without an option of fine and where the two parties' consent to commit incest they are liable to three (3) years custodial sentence without an option of fine.

(g) It is an offence for any person, parent, guardian, school proprietor, neighbour or religious leader who knowingly conceals any sexual offence. The offender is liable on conviction to a term of three (3) years custodial sentence.

(h) Any person who knowingly gives false information to a law enforcement officer with intent to implicate another under this law commits an offence and is liable on conviction to a custodial sentence not exceeding three (3) years or a fine of Seven Hundred and Fifty Thousand Naira (=N=750,000,00) or both.

(i) It is an offence under the Law to give false information to a law enforcement officer with intent to implicate another. The offence is punishable by custodial sentence not exceeding three (3) years imprisonment or a fine of Seven Hundred and Fifty Thousand Naira (=N=750,000,00) or both.

5. The Law gives the Lagos State Domestic and Sexual Violence Agency power to coordinate all activities and response to sexual and gender-based violence in the State.
6. The Law allows for a Register to be known as the Lagos State Sexual Offenders Register to record all sex convicts and a separate register shall be kept for a convicted sexual offender under the age of eighteen (18) years and the register shall be in the form of a database containing all information of sexual convicts.
7. The Law prescribes for the period of retention of information in the Register, three categories of sexual offenders:
    a. Tier One is used to classify a first offender convicted of any form of sexual offences and shall be retained for ten (10) years before being struck off the Register.
    b. Tier Two is used to classify second and subsequent offender convicted of the sexual offence of rape and shall be retained in the Register for twentyfive (25) years before being struck off the Register.
    c. Tier Three is used to classify persons convicted of the offence of defilement, sexual assault by penetration of a child, or a person with disability etc shall be retained in the Register for the life of the sexual offender, excluding any time the sexual offender is in custody.
8. The Law allows application to be made to the Agency to access information contained in the Sex Offender register. The information may be sought for research, statistics, and for background checks.

9. The Law allows for the publication of the identity of a person convicted of sexual offences in several ways including in public places, on the Lagos State Government website and the agency's website, and by displaying the photographs of sexual offenders on Lagos State Broadcasting Service and announcing their names on radio stations in the State.
10. The law prohibits the publication of the identity and details of a victim of sexual and gender-based violence unless the consent of the survivor has been obtained.

THE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION LAW 2008

INTRODUCTION

Law making for social change is our collective responsibility "Know The Laws" is an initiative of your government aimed at simplifying the laws to ensure greater compliance for the benefit of our state.

The bill on the registration of Community Development Associations and for other connected matters was signed into law by His Excellency Governor Babatunde Raji Fashola on the 18th day of February 2008.

The contents of the Law are as follows.

(1) It is now permitted by this law, for members of a particular community, to come together freely, in order to form and register Community Development Associations of their choice

(2) Any business organization / corporate outfit that is located in a particular community is also free to belong to the Community Development Association of that community as a member.

To get a particular Community Development Associations registered with the relevant Authority the following requirement must be fulfilled.

(a) Every Community Development Association must be made up of 20 or more voluntary members.

(b) The formation of any Community Development Association must be for the purpose of promoting the development of the community.

(c) The Community Development Association to be registered must fulfill all the requirements necessary for registration and also pay the registration fee.

It should be noted that the operations of Community Development Associations fall under the control of the Lagos State Ministry of Rural Development therefore it is compulsory that every CDA operating in the state, must be registered with the Ministry of Rural Development through the Local Government

Procedure for Registration

(1) For the registration process to begin, the Community Development Association must submit an application for registration to the Local Government Area where such CDA is located.

This application for registration must be submitted together with the constitution of the Community Development Association, and must be in the format prescribed by the Ministry of Rural Development.

Registration

The Registration of all CDA shall be done by the Local Government Area, where such CDAs are located.

If the Local Government is satisfied with the application of the CDA, a Certificate of Registration shall be issued. The certificate that is issued will stand as an evidence that all the requirements necessary for registration have been met.

The application of a CDA may not qualify for registration, if it is found to be against the Law or against the principle of community development.

Once a certificate of Registration is granted, the CDA is free to exercise the powers and functions of an association, meaning it can raise funds, own property and execute community projects in accordance with the Law.

Raising of Funds and Assets

CDAs are free to raise funds from the following avenues.

- **(a)** Dues and subscriptions of members
- **(b)** Levies for special community projects
- **(c)** Revenue from community economic projects or assets
- **(d)** Voluntary contributions of its members and other philanthropists.
- **(e)** Contribution of corporate organizations within or outside the community
- **(f)** Grants from the Federal, State or Local Government Area and any other person or agency.

CDAs may accept gifts of land, money or other property from persons or organization, However, gifts with conditions that are inconsistent with the objective or against the laws of CDA should not be accepted.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

For the purpose of operating a credible financial statement, every CDA shall:

- **(a)** Operate and maintain an account in any bank of its choice. The fund of the CDA will be kept in this account.
- **(b)** A proper record of all the funds received and inventory of all the assets of the CDA shall be properly kept.

Executive Council

The executive council of a CDA shall comprise the following officers.

(i)	Chairman	**(vii)**	Financial Secretary
(ii)	1st Vice Chairman	**(viii)**	Auditor
(iii)	2nd Vice Chairman	**(ix)**	Social Secretary
(iv)	Secretary	**(x)**	Welfare Officer

(v)	Assistant Secretary	**(xi)**	Public Relation Officer
(vi)	Treasurer	**(xii)**	Three (3) Ex-Officio Members

Community Development Committee (CDC)

A Community Development Committee, must be established in every Local Government Area in Lagos State.

The CDC will be responsible in advising the Local Government on the operation of the various Community Development Associations within the local Government area.

The membership of the CDC at the Local Government level shall be as follows.

(a) The Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer of every registered CDA in the Local Government Area.

(b) A representative of the Local Government, to be appointed by the Chairman of the Local Government Area

(c) A representative of the Ministry of Rural Development to be appointed by the Commissioner.

(d) A representative of the (public interest) to be appointed by the Governor, on the commissioner's recommendation.

Community Development Advisory Council (CDAC)

The State Government shall set up a Community Development Advisory Council. The primary function of this Community Development Advisory Council is to advise the State Government on matters relating to rural development in the state.

The member of the Community Development Advisory Council shall be as follows:-

(1) The Chairman and Secretary of every Community Development Committee in the State.

(2) A representative of the Ministry of Rural Development to be appointed by the commissioner.

(3) Two representatives of (public interest) to be appointed by the Governor on the recommendation of the commissioner.

Duty of Local Government as It relate to CDA and CDC

It is the responsibility of the Local Government to carry out the following duties as it relates to the operation of the CDA and CDC.

(a) The Local Government shall support selected community development projects of CDAs registered under it.

(b) The Local Government shall fund the meetings and operations of its Community Development Committee.

(c) The Local Government shall organize elections into the executive of its Community Development Committee.

(d) The Local Government shall keep a register of all community Development Associations registered under it.

(e) The Local Government shall submit to the ministry a collation of reports on the operation and community projects of CDAs in the Local Government Area and all necessary returns as may be required by the Ministry from time to time on the operation of CDAs and CDC.

The Local Government must ensure that the CDC complies with the guidelines for the operation of CDC as may be prescribed/directed by the ministry.

Duty of the Ministry of Rural Development

The duties of the Ministry of rural development as it relates to the operations of CDAs, CDC and CDAC are or follows.

(a) The Ministry shall collate records of all community development projects from the returns made to it by the Local Government

(b) The Ministry shall make recommendations to the state government on some selected community development projects of various CDAs to be supported by government in each fiscal year.

(c) The Ministry shall fund the meetings and operations of the CDAC.

(d) The Ministry shall organize elections into the Executive of the CDAC.

(e) The Ministry shall also keep a detailed register of all CDCs in the state.

(f) The Ministry shall organize an Annual conference of CDA's in Lagos State to showcase model community development.

(g) The Ministry shall ensure that the CDAC complies with guidelines as may be prescribed by the ministry.

Content of Constitution

The constitution of all the CDA's in Lagos State shall be prepared by the members of the CDA's. Adequate care must be taken when preparing the constitution to make sure that it is done in accordance with the law.

The constitution of CDA's to be form must contain the following.

1. The name of the CDA

2. The objectives and functions of the CDA which shall include the following

- **(a)** To promote self help efforts within the community
- **(b)** To raise funds for the implementation of community projects and activities.
- **(c)** Initiate, execute and monitor community development projects.

(d) Create awareness about and mobilize resident of the community on their civic duties and community development generally.

(e) To ensure peace and security within the community by collaborating with security agencies and government.

(f) To monitor and maintain social infrastructure that are provided by government for the benefit of the community;

(g) Promote and encourage compliance with government policies and programmes on community development generally;

(h) Collaborate with public and private agencies and non governmental organization for the promotion of community development ideals and goals.

(i) Perform any other function and activities as required or recommended by the Ministry of rural development through the Local Government.

Executive Council (Formulation, Tenure & Removal)

The formulation of the executive council of a Community Development Association, Community Development Committee and that of the Community Development Advisory Council shall be made up of the following officers.

(i)	Chairman	**(vii)**	Financial Secretary
(ii)	1st Vice Chairman	**(viii)**	Auditor
(iii)	2nd Vice Chairman	**(ix)**	Social Secretary
(iv)	Secretary	**(x)**	Welfare Officer
(v)	Assistant Secretary	**(xi)**	Public Relation Officer
(vi)	Treasurer	**(xii)**	Three (3) Ex-Officio Members

The members of the executive council shall hold office for the period of two years, after which they could be re-elected for a further term of another two years.

NOTE:

A person shall no longer be a member of the executive council, if he or she falls under the following situation/circumstances.

(a) If he or she resigns from the office

(b) Ceases to be a member of the CDA, CDC or CDAC

(c) If he or she becomes insane;

(d) If he or she is officially declared bankrupt

(e) If he or she is convicted of a criminal offence involving dishonesty by a court of competent jurisdiction; and

(f) If he or she is recommended for removal from office by any officer of the Executive council, and a motion for removal is passed by two third majority vote of members present at any meeting of the Executive Council.

Meaning

CDA:	Community Development Association
CDC:	Community Development Committee
CDAC:	Community Development Advisory Council
Commissioner:	Means the commissioner charged with the responsibility for rural development
Community:	Means any group of persons with a common point of reference by geographical location within any parts of Lagos State.
Ministry:	Means the Ministry of Rural Development.

KIDNAPPING PROHIBITION LAW 2017

INTRODUCTION

As Citizens we all have a collective responsibility to obey Laws. Ignorance of the Law is no excuse. 'Know the Laws Series' is an initiative of Lagos State Government aimed at simplifying laws in order to ensure compliance to make Lagos work for all.

1. OBJECTIVES OF THE LAW

The law came into force on the 1st February, 2017.

The objectives of the law are as follows:

(i) To protect and secure human lives;

(ii) To eradicate Kidnapping and other related offences in Lagos State.

2. KIDNAPPING, CONSPIRACY, ATTEMPT TO KIDNAP AND FAKED KIDNAPPING.

(1) Any person who—

- **(a)** forcibly holds;
- **(b)** abducts;
- **(c)** detains;
- **(d)** captures; or
- **(e)** instils fear in a person, with the intent of collecting ransom commits an offence.

(2) If two or more persons conspire to kidnap a person, they commit an offence.

(3) Any person who assaults or uses force or threatens to use force or violence on any person in an attempt to kidnap such person commits an offence.

(4) A person who deliberately puts himself forward to be kidnapped with the intention of extracting money or ransom commits an offence.

3. AIDING, ABETTING OR ASSISTING THE ESCAPE OF AN OFFENDER AND CONCEALING KNOWLEDGE OF EXISTENCE OF KIDNAPPERS.

(1) Any person who aids or abets a person to commit the offence of kidnapping or assists a person who has committed the offence of kidnapping to escape commits an offence.

(2) Any person who has knowledge of kidnapping activities or is aware of the existence or presence of kidnappers and fails to report to security operatives commits an offence.

4. PROTECTION OF INFORMANTS.

The Police Officer, an officer or a security agency investigating an act of kidnapping is duty bound to protect the identity of any person who gives information of any act of kidnapping.

5. FORFEITURE OF PROPERTY USED FOR KIDNAPPING

Any movable or immovable property used in connection with the act of kidnapping may be forfeited to the State.

6. POWERS OF THE POLICE OR SECURITY AGENTS.

(1) A person may be arrested by a police officer or any security agent without a warrant if reasonably suspected of committing or about to commit the offence of kidnapping or abduction.

(2) A police officer or security agent may apply force, use fire arms where necessary to prevent an escape or effect an arrest of a suspected offender.

7. OFFENCES AND PENALTIES

S/N	OFFENCE	PENALTY ON CONVICTION
1.	Forcibly taking hold of, abducting, capturing or detaining another person.	**Life imprisonment.**
2.	Instilling fear in a person with the intention of abducting through force or any other means with the intention of demanding payment.	**Life imprisonment.**
3.	Death occurring as a result of kidnapping or abduction.	**Death Sentence By hanging or lethal injection or as may be prescribed by the Court.**
4.	Conspiracy to commit the offence of kidnapping.	**Twenty (20) years imprisonment for each of the Offenders.**
5.	A person who causes extreme fear, assaults, uses force, threatens by means of letter, SMS, email, telephone or other means of communication or use violence on any person in an attempt to kidnap.	**Twenty five (25) years imprisonment.**
6.	A person openly or secretly putting himself forward to be kidnapped by another for the purpose of collecting money or any ransom.	**Fourteen (14) years imprisonment.**
7.	A person who falsely presents himself to be kidnapped.	**Twenty (20) years imprisonment.**

S/N	OFFENCE	PENALTY ON CONVICTION
8.	A person who has the influence or ability to release a person kidnapped, who extorts or exacts from any person anything of value to falsely effect the release of a kidnapped person.	**Twenty (20) years imprisonment.**
9.	Anyone who assists an offender or intentionally aids or facilitates the escape of an offender.	**Twenty Five (25) years imprisonment.**
10.	A person who is aware of the existence of kidnappers and fails to report to security operatives.	**Five (5) years imprisonment.**
11.	Where a person is aware that another has been kidnapped and refuses to reveal same.	**Three (3) years imprisonment.**
12.	A person who knowingly and willfully allows his premises to be used for keeping a person kidnapped.	**Twenty (20) years imprisonment.**
13.	Where a policeman or any officer of a security agency in charge of investigating any act of kidnapping discloses the name and details of any informant which leads to the discovery of the identity of the informant.	**Ten (10) years imprisonment.**
14.	Any property be it movable or immovable used with the commission of an offence of kidnapping.	**Forfeiture of property.**

LAGOS STATE NEIGHBOURHOOD SAFETY CORPS LAW 2016

INTRODUCTION

The law came into force on the 15th of August, 2016. It aims to help protect the lives and properties of residents of the State by establishing a uniformed Neighbourhood Safety Corp within the State. It also establishes the Lagos State Neighbourhood Safety Agency which regulates and controls the activities of Neighbourhood Safety Corps.

1. OBJECTIVES OF THE AGENCY

The objectives of the agency are to-

(i) Establish a uniformed Neighbourhood Safety Corp within the State.

(ii) Assist the police and other security agencies within the State, by giving relevant information on crime and suspicious activities that may result as crime in order to reduce crime rate in the various communities.

(iii) Create a structure that would prevent the activities of hoodlums and cultists in communities within the State.

(iv) Assist to maintain peace in the communities in the State.

2. ESTABLISHMENT AND COMPOSITION OF BOARD OF THE AGENCY

The law establishes a Board that comprises of a Chairman and eleven (11) other members.

The Board shall-

(i) Be responsible for the operation and administration of the Agency.

(ii) Ensure that there is a cordial relationship between the Nigeria Police and other security agencies in the State.

(iii) Make necessary regulations of the operation of the Safety Corps which shall be subject to the approval of the Lagos State House of Assembly.

3. FUNCTIONS OF THE NEIGHBOURHOOD SAFETY AGENCY

- Establishing the uniformed neighbourhood Safety Corp in all Local Government Areas of the State,
- Prescribing regulations to guide the operations of the Corps and other local vigilante groups within the State,
- Approving the recruitment of eligible persons as corps members in all local government areas of the State.
- Formulating guidelines, regulations and policies for the day today operation of the Corps and other local vigilante groups within the State.
- Disciplining erring Corp members.
- Providing uniforms, boots, communication gadgets and other equipment for Corps members in all local government areas of the State.

- Paying salaries and emoluments of the Corps
- Establishing offices/ Safety Corps posts in all local government areas and headquarters in a place approved by the Governor.
- Appoint the head of each Safety Corps in each local government from among the officers of such local government area.
- Provide a uniform graded system of structure for the Safety Agency.

4. FUNCTIONS OF THE CORPS

To assist the Police Force and other Security Agencies in-

(i) The protection of lives and properties within the State.

(ii) Preventing and combating crime.

(iii) Ensuring that all persons within the State are free to participate in their normal social and economic life without molestation, fear, let or hindrance.

(iv) Protecting properties and infrastructures belonging to the State.

(v) Disarming unauthorised persons in possession of arms and other dangerous weapons.

(vi) Rendering prompt assistance to accident victims.

(vii) Gathering and making available intelligence security report to relevant authorities.

(viii) Providing daily security report to the Chairman of the Local Government Area.

(ix) Registration of all private vigilante groups, private home security and other person employed for private security.

(x) Exercising supervisory roles over all existing local government owned vigilante groups.

(xi) Assisting the police in investigating crimes committed within its area.

(xii) Timely report of suspicious activities, crimes in progress and crime suspects amongst other things.

(xiii) Providing relevant grass root information that will enhance the understanding of the police on how to be useful in the community.

(xiv) Assisting the police to carry out all lawful activities in maintaining law and order.

(xv) The protection of lives and properties by the prevention of crime and violence.

(xvi) Contributing to maintenance of peace within the community

(xvii) Encouraging harmony and peace within the community.

(xviii) Alerting and educating the public of potential crime and violence, threats and behaviour that might induce crime.

5. QUALIFICATION OF PERSONS WHO WANT TO ENLIST AS NEIGHBOURHOOD CORPS MEMBERS AND CODE OF CONDUCT

Any person who wants to apply as a Corps member in the State must-

(i) Be a registered resident in the state in accordance with the Lagos State Residents Registration Agency (LASRRA) Law.

(ii) Apply in writing to be a Corps member.

(iii) Be of proven character and integrity.

(iv) Be recommended by a traditional ruler of the community or a top government functionary resident in the community.

(v) Not have any criminal record.

Safety Corps members are expected to conduct themselves in manners stipulated by regulations, guidelines and policies of the Agency.

6. INTERPRETATION OF SOME WORDS

i. **"Governor"** means the Governor of Lagos State.

ii. **"Corps"** means member of the Neighbourhood Safety Corps employed by the Lagos State Neighbourhood Safety Agency.

iii. **"State"** means Lagos State.

iv. **"Local Government Areas"** means the twenty (20) Local Government Areas and thirty-seven (37) Local Council Development Areas in the state.

LAGOS STATE PROPERTIES PROTECTION LAW 2016

INTRODUCTION

The law came into operation on the 15th of August 2016. It prohibits the entry into any premises to take over any landed property with force or engage in any act that is inconsistent with the right of the owner in respect of the land.

The objective of the law is to curb the problem of land grabbers in the State by making the act of grabbing land forcefully an offence.

1. ACTS THAT CONSTITUTE FORCEFUL ENTRY INTO THE PREMISES OF ANY LANDED PROPERTY.

- Use of threat of violence by any person to gain entry into the premises of any landed property.
- Use of fire arms, offensive weapons or any obnoxious substances, chemical material to gain entry into the premises where any landed property is situated.
- Being in company of any person who intends to use fire arms, offensive weapons or obnoxious or chemical material to secure entry into the premises of any landed property.
- Any form of violence against a person or against a property.
- Any person who does any of the acts mentioned above commits an offence.

2. ILLEGAL OCCUPATION OF PROPERTY

- Any person who—
  - **(a)** occupies any property illegally is regarded as an encroacher;
  - **(b)** derives title to any land from an encroacher is regarded as an encroacher;
  - **(c)** gets a licence or right from an illegal occupant is regarded as an encroacher.
- Any person regarded as an encroacher under this law would still be regarded as an encroacher even after being allowed to leave the property.

3. ILLEGAL USE OF LAND AGENTS/LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENTS ETC.

- The law prohibits the placing of land agents on any land for the purposes of forceful take over.
- The law prohibits the use of Law enforcement agents, vigilante groups and cultural/traditional militia to enforce a court judgement in respect of any land without recourse to the Sheriffs and Civil Processes Act.

4. PROFESSIONAL MISCONDUCT

- The law prohibits any professional person in the course of duties from—
  - **(a)** Intentionally facilitating any contractual agreement that will contravene the provisions of this law with any land owning family or person.

(b) Executing any court judgement without following the procedure laid down in the Sheriffs and Civil Process Act.

(c) Any professional who—

(i) contravenes the provision (a) above commits the offence of aiding and abetting.

(ii) contravenes the provisions of the law mentioned above commits an offence.

(iii) is found guilty shall be reported to the relevant professional body for misconduct.

5. PROHIBITION OF FALSE PETITIONS

- The law prohibits persons from writing frivolous and unwarranted petitions.
- Any person writing a petition in respect of a forceful takeover of any land must have a sworn declaration attached to it.

6. PROHIBITION OF THE DEMAND FOR CONSTRUCTION FEES OR DISRUPTION OF CONSTRUCTION WORKS.

- The law prohibits the collection or demand of any fee or levy in respect of any construction works being carried out on any landed property by any person or his agent.
- The law prohibits any person or his agent from disrupting any construction work being carried out on any landed property.

7. ESTABLISHMENT OF A TASK FORCE UNIT AND ITS POWERS

- The law establishes a task force unit to enforce the provisions of the law.
- The task force has the power to arrest persons who contravene the provisions of this law.

8. JURISDICTION OF SPECIAL OFFENCES COURT

- The Special Offences court of the State has the power to try any person who commits an offence under this law.

9. OFFENCES AND THEIR PENALTIES

S/N	OFFENCE	PENALTY ON CONVICTION
1.	Forceful takeover of land acts inconsistent with proprietary interest of owner by using force to take over possession of any property before the commencement of this law and remaining on it after the commencement of this law.	**Ten (10) years imprisonment.**
2.	Using unlawful authority, threat or violence to secure entry into any landed property.	**Ten (10) years imprisonment.**

S/N	OFFENCE	PENALTY ON CONVICTION
3.	Making forceful entry into landed property with firearms offensive weapons or obnoxious substances or chemical materials or being in company of persons armed with such firearm or offensive weapon.	**Four (4) years imprisonment.**
4.	Wounds or uses violence on any person in the course of forceful entry into any landed property with fire arms or obnoxious substances.	**Four (4) years imprisonment.**
5.	Occupying land as an encroacher or deriving title to land from an encroacher.	**Fine of Five (5) Million Naira or Five (5) years imprisonment or both.**
6.	An encroacher on any landed property who has on the land fire arms and dangerous/offensive weapons.	**Ten (10) years imprisonment or both.**
7.	Offering land for sale without lawful authority of the owner of the land.	**Fine of Five Hundred Thousand (500,000) Naira or six (6) months imprisonment or both.**
8.	Selling property without lawful title/selling such property with privies earlier/selling property entrusted to without lawful authority of owner.	**A fine not exceeding 100% of the value of the property or imprisonment of Five (5) years or both.**
9.	Selling family land or property or any part of it without the consent and authority of the head of the family and other accredited members of the family.	**Twenty One (21) years imprisonment.**
10.	Selling Government land or property or part of it without the consent of the state.	**Twenty One (21) years imprisonment.**
11.	Selling land that has been previously sold without a court judgement repudiating the earlier sale.	**Twenty One (21) years imprisonment.**
12.	Demand for fee or levy in respect of construction activities.	**One Million (1,000,000) Naira or two years imprisonment or both.**

10. INTERPRETATION OF SOME WORDS

i. **"Agent"** means a person who acts or purports to act on behalf of any party to a real property transaction, whether in respect of a sale, lease, license, mortgage or other dealings or disposal

of, or relating to the property including any person engaged for the purpose of forceful take over or sale of a landed property;

ii. **"Construction Activities"** includes roofing repairs, decking, fencing and other building works, restoration or improvement on any property;

iii. **"Encroachment"** means entry into another's property without right or permission: trespass, violation, intrusion and usurpation:

"Landed Property" means a property, a parcel of land, an improvement on a land, a building, any land ancillary to a building, a site comprising of any building(s) with any land ancillary to it.

iv. **"State"** means Lagos State of Nigeria

LAGOS STATE ROAD TRAFFIC LAW 2012 CH.R 5 LAWS OF LAGOS STATE 2015.

The Law came into operation on the 2nd day of August 2012. It provides for the administration of road traffic in the State by LASTMA and VIO officials, to ensure the free flow of traffic within the State.

POWERS AND DUTIES OF LASTMA OFFICIALS

1. The Law empowers LASTMA officials to control vehicular traffic in every area of Lagos State. These vehicles include but are not limited to the categories of vehicles listed under- Salon cars; Mini Buses; (Danfo) Long Buses; Trailers; Tankers Tricycles and Motorcycles.

   The duties of LASTMA officials are to-

   (a) Ensure that-
   - All vehicles comply with any restriction of the use of any highway in the State;
   - All vehicles do not drive against the normal flow of traffic; (driving on a one way lane)
   - Vehicles are not parked indiscriminately on any highway.

   (b) Regulate-
   - Persons driving any vehicle or being in charge of any animal on any highway in the State;
   - General traffic on public highways.

   (c) Remove-
   - abandoned vehicles from the highway or beside any private premises;
   - vehicles reasonably believed to be in contravention of the provisions of any enactment;
   - any vehicle that cannot be moved from any spot on its own;
   - Any vehicle if the person authorized to drive the vehicle is in not in the immediate vicinity of the vehicle;
   - Any vehicle impounded shall be parked at any designated vehicle park within the State. Any vehicle parked can only be released to the person who is in proper custody of the vehicle after the payment of the relevant fees.

ESTABLISHMENT OF VEHICLE INSPECTION SERVICE

2. The Law also establishes a Vehicle Inspection Service, whose duties include-
   - Inspecting motor vehicles in the State to ensure that they are road worthy;
   - Inspecting vehicles before they are registered;
   - Collaborating with other agencies to enforce traffic rules;
   - Providing accessible emergency services;
   - Training and testing applicants for drivers licence and riders cards;
   - Carrying out inspection and issuing reports on accident vehicles in the State.

In the exercise of their duties LASTMA and VIO have the power to impound vehicles, arrest offenders and direct the person in charge of the vehicle to pay fines stipulated under the Law.

SOME ACTS THAT CONSTITUTE OFFENCES AND THEIR PENALTIES

OFFENCE	PENALTY ON CONVICTION
Careless and inconsiderate driving	Fine of N50,000 and N100,000 as a second time offender or three months imprisonment or both
Reckless or dangerous driving	A fine of N100,000 or two years imprisonment or both
Causing death by dangerous or reckless driving	Seven years imprisonment on conviction.
Driving under the influence of alcohol or drugs	Fine of N100,000 or two years imprisonment or both
Forging a drivers licence or using another person's drivers licence, driving an unregistered vehicle on the highway, using a motor vehicle for purposes for which it is not registered.	Fine of N20,000, N30,000 as a second offender or three years imprisonment or both.
Driving on a BRT lane, parking within 15 metres of any road intersection, using a siren or noisy device in a vehicle, driving on unauthorized routes, being a bus conductor without wearing the prescribed uniform, or herding animals on any highway.	Fine of N20,000, N30,000 as a second offender or three years imprisonment of both
Driving Trailers, Petrol Tankers, within the metropolis of Lagos during the hours of 6.pm - 9.pm	N50,000 or a term of imprisonment not exceeding six months. Impounding of the vehicle.
Operating a Motorcycle or Tricycle without a rider's card.	Impounding of the motorcycle.
None wearing of protective helmet by riders and passengers of Motorcycles and Tricycles.	1st offender N20,000, subsequent offender N30,000 or imprisonment of six months or both.
Motorcycles carrying more than one passenger at a time, a pregnant woman, a child below the age of 12 years or an adult with a baby or carrying heavy load on the head.	1st offender N20,000 subsequent offender or a term of imprisonment for three years or both.
Vehicles of certain weight prohibited from plying the bridges within the State.	Repairing any bridge damaged in the cause of driving on such bridge. 1st offenders pay N20,000 while subsequent offenders are liable to pay N30,000 and are liable to a term of imprisonment for 3 years or to both.

OFFENCE	PENALTY ON CONVICTION
Violation of routes by commercial vehicles.	1st offender N20,000 subsequent offender N30,000.
Non display of routes by commercial vehicles	1st offender N20,000 subsequent offender N30,000.
Disobeying traffic control officers	1st offender N20,000 subsequent offender N30,0000 and impounding of the vehicle.
Operating a Motorcycle in a restricted or prohibited route.	1st offender N20,000 subsequent offender N30,000 and impounding of the motorcycle.
Driving in a direction prohibited by the Law.	1st offender, one year imprisonment and forfeiture of the vehicle to the State. 2nd and subsequent offender three years imprisonment and forfeiture of the vehicle to the State. Biometric data to be captured.
Overloading of a commercial vehicle on the highway.	N50,000 and dislodging the excess load
Installation of a musical gadget on a motorcycle.	1st offender N20,000, subsequent offender N30,000 and impounding of the musical gadget.
Motorcyclist resisting arrest	1st offender N20,000 subsequent offender N30,000.
Operating a motorcycle without side mirrors indicators, brake lights or rear lights.	1st offender N20,000 subsequent offender N30,000.
Under aged person riding a motorcycle	1st offender N20,000 subsequent offender N30,000 and dislodging the rider.
Motorcycle using horn designed for motor vehicles.	1st offender N20,000 subsequent offender N30,000 and the removal of the horn.
Exceeding prescribed speed limit.	N100,000 or imprisonment for one year or both.
Tailgating an emergency vehicle.	1st offender N20,000 subsequent offender N30,000.
Failure of slow moving vehicle to move to the right lane	1st offender N20,000 subsequent offender N30,000.
Physical assault of a traffic officer.	N100,000 or a term of imprisonment for three years or to both.

OFFENCE	PENALTY ON CONVICTION
Driving in a direction prohibited by Law/neglect of road traffic directions.	Forfeiture of vehicle to the State and 1st offender one year imprisonment subsequent offender three years imprisonment and capturing of the offenders biometric data.
Illegal U-turn	1st offender N20,000 subsequent offender N30,000 and the training of the driver.
Wrongful overtaking of vehicles	N100,000
Driving on a walkway or kerb.	N50,000
Parking on a walkway or kerb.	
Commercial vehicle stopping to pick passengers on the highway.	N20,000
Bullion van driving in a direction prohibited by Law.	Forfeiture of the vehicle and imprisonment for three years.
Abandoning a vehicle on the highway.	N50,000, cost of towing and imprisonment for a term of six months or both.
Broken down vehicle causing obstruction on the highway.	N50,000 and cost of towing.
Commuter bus conductor hanging on the tail board of a moving vehicle.	1st offender N20,000 subsequent offender N30,000 dislodging the conductor and sanctioning the driver.
Making or receiving phone calls while hands are not free	1st offender N20,000 subsequent offender N30,000
Driving a vehicle with the doors left open.	1st offender N20,000 subsequent offender N30,000
Counting money or engaging in any other activity while driving.	1st offender N20,000 subsequent offender N30,000
Driving without a strapped vehicle (applies to passengers as well)	1st offender N20,000 subsequent offender N30,000
Failure to display reflective warning sign at point of breakdown.	1st offender N20,000, subsequent offender N30,000
Willful obstruction on the highway.	N50,000 and cost of towing or imprisonment for a term of one year or both.
Parking on a yellow line on any public highway/Illegal parking	1st offender N20,000 subsequent offender N30,000
Vehicle crossing double yellow line.	1st offender N20,000 subsequent offender N30,000

OFFENCE	PENALTY ON CONVICTION
Staying within the yellow junction box (off side rule)	1st offender N20,000 subsequent offender N30,000
Failure to yield right to way to pedestrian at a Zebra crossing.	1st offender N20,000 susequent offender N30,000
Failure to give way to traffic on the left at a roundabout.	1st offender N20,000 subsequent offender N30,000
Smoking while driving.	1st offender N20,000 subsequent offender N30,000

SOME PROHIBITED ROUTES FOR MOTORCYCLES AND TRICYCLES.

(a) All major highways in Lagos State-

- Lagos-Ibadan Expressway.
- Apapa Oshodi Expressway.
- Oworonshoki-Oshodi Expressway.
- Lagos- Ikorodu Expressway.
- Lagos Abeokuta Expressway.
- Third Mainland Bridge.
- Eti-Osa/Lekki Expressway.
- Lagos Badagry Expressway.
- Funsho Williams Avenue.
- Agege Motor Road.
- Eti-Osa/ Lekki Coastal Road.

(b) All bridges in the State.

(c) Listed routes in all Local Government Areas and Council Developmental Areas contained in Schedule 2 to the Law.