

**GOMBE STATE LEGAL NOTICE NO. 4 OF 2023**

**DISTRICT COURTS**

***(INCREASE OF JURISDICTION) RULES, 2023***

## GOMBE STATE LEGAL NOTICE NO. 4 OF 2023

### DISTRICT COURTS (INCREASE OF JURISDICTION) RULES, 2023

**Commencement:** 22<sup>nd</sup> Day of December, 2023.

**WHEREAS** the Hon. Chief Judge is empowered by the provisions of Section 17 of the District Courts Law of Bauchi State (applicable to Gombe State) to recommend to the Governor of Gombe State an increase in the jurisdiction of the District Courts in civil causes and matters;

**NOW THEREFORE**, I, HON. JUSTICE HALIMA S. MOHAMMED, Chief Judge of Gombe State, in the exercise of the powers conferred upon me by Section 17 of the District Courts Law of Bauchi State (applicable to Gombe State) and all other Constitutional and Statutory powers enabling me in that behalf do hereby issue this Legal Notice No. 4 of 2023 as follows:

1. The Gombe State Legal Notice No. 3 of 2002 is hereby repealed and replaced with this Legal Notice No. 4 of 2023.
2. Subject to the provisions of this Law and of any other written law, a Chief District Judge I & II, a Senior District Judge I & II and a District Judge shall have and exercise jurisdiction in civil causes and matters as follows:
  - a) In all personal suits arising from contract or tort, or from both, whether the debt or damage claimed as balance or otherwise is not more than Three Million Naira (N3,000,000.00) in the case of a Chief District Judge I, Two Million Five Hundred Thousand Naira (N2,500,000.00) in the case of a Chief District Judge II, Two Million Naira (N2,000,000.00) in the case of a Senior District Judge I, One Million Five Hundred Thousand Naira (N1,500,000.00) in the case of a Senior District Judge II and One Million Naira (N1,000,000.00) in the case of a District Judge;
  - b) In all cases between landlord and tenant for the possession of any landed property claimed under agreement or refused to be delivered up, where the annual value or rent does not exceed Three Million Naira (N3,000,000.00) in the case of a Chief District Judge I, Two Million Five Hundred Thousand Naira (N2,500,000.00) in the case of a Chief District Judge II, Two Million Naira (N2,000,000.00) in the case of a Senior

District Judge I, One Million Five Hundred Thousand Naira (N1,500,000.00) in the case of a Senior District Judge II and One Million Naira (N1,000,000.00) in the case of a District Judge;

c) In all actions for the recovery of any penalty, rates, expenses, contribution or other like demand which is recoverable by virtue of any written law for the time being in force, if:

- i. it is not expressly provided by this or any other written law that the demand shall be recoverable only in some other court; and
- ii. the amount claimed in the action does not exceed Three Million Naira (N3,000,000.00) in the case of a Chief District Judge I, Two Million Five Hundred Thousand Naira (N2,500,000.00) in the case of a Chief District Judge II, Two Million Naira (N2,000,000.00) in the case of a Senior District Judge I, One Million Five Hundred Thousand Naira (N1,500,000.00) in the case of a Senior District Judge II and One Million Naira (N1,000,000.00) in the case of a District Judge.

**PROVIDED THAT** for the purpose of this paragraph, the expression “penalty” shall not include a fine to which any person is liable on conviction for a criminal offence;

d) In all civil proceedings in respect of which jurisdiction has been conferred on a District Court by any other written law or which by virtue of any other written law may be instituted in a District Court where the amount claimed or the value of the subject matter of the proceedings, as the case may be, does not exceed Three Million Naira (N3,000,000.00) in the case of a Chief District Judge I, Two Million Five Hundred Thousand Naira (N2,500,000.00) in the case of a Chief District Judge II, Two Million Naira (N2,000,000.00) in the case of a Senior District Judge I, One Million Five Hundred Thousand Naira (N1,500,000.00) in the case

of a Senior District Judge II and One Million Naira (N1,000,000.00) in the case of a District Judge.

**PROVIDED THAT** for the purpose of section 2(a)(b)(c) and (d) of this Legal Notice, any of the foregoing District Judges shall have the jurisdiction and power to hear and determine such action within the limits of his personal jurisdiction.

3. Where in any action, the debt or demand consists of a balance not exceeding Three Million Naira (N3,000,000.00), after an admitted counter-claim or set-off of the debt or demand claimed or recoverable by the defendant from the plaintiff, a District Judge designated and assigned to Small Claims Court by the Hon. Chief Judge shall have the jurisdiction and power to hear and determine such action.

MADE AT GOMBE THIS 22<sup>ND</sup> DAY OF DECEMBER, 2023.

**SIGNED**  
**HON. JUSTICE HALIMA S. MOHAMMED**  
**CHIEF JUDGE GOMBE STATE**

APPROVED THIS 22<sup>ND</sup> DAY OF DECEMBER, 2023.

**BY HIS EXCELLENCY**  
**SIGNED**  
**MUHAMMADU INUWA YAHAYA**  
**GOVERNOR, GOMBE STATE**