



## **ABOUT THE FIRM**

### *Vision*

Marrah & Associates is founded on the vision of the supremacy of the law and equality of all persons before it. The firm is grounded on the values of trust, innovation and efficiency. It is committed to being at the forefront of the practice of the law, justice delivery, respect for human rights and adherence to the rule of law. It seeks to be a trusted law firm without borders—by stretching out to meet the demands and needs of persons both within and without the borders of Sierra Leone.

### *Delivering value*

At Marrah & Associates, we commit to providing legal expertise and solutions through cutting edge legal tools and techniques. We undertake to provide only the best quality advice and legal support every time. We are devoted to delivering excellent services to our clients. The firm is client-centred and is therefore committed to always putting the needs of the client at the heart of what we do. This is why we strive at all times to deliver satisfactory services in helping clients achieve their desired results. Fantastic client service is our main goal and is what distinguishes us from the rest.

Our firm views clients as partners in its business and handles their problems or needs from a perspective of shared-interest. This is what inspires the quality of our expertise and the extent to which we go to deliver excellent value for money. We believe we exist for our clients and we therefore regard them as the greatest assets of our business. We endeavour to always align our values and goals with the needs of our clients. This informs our constant investment in our human resource so that our clients can benefit from our wide-ranging and up-to-date knowledge on the law and its dynamics. We pledge dedicated commitment to our clients' briefs and provision of results tailored to meet their individual needs/circumstances.

### Strategy and Activism

The firm draws on the wealth of experience in the practice of virtually every aspect of the law and reputation of its managing partner's cause lawyering and activism. It is therefore guided by its unwavering respect for the rule of law, equality and good governance in servicing commercial needs, litigating matters and its provision of broad spectrum of legal services to its clients.

We are dedicated to achieving the best results for our corporate, commercial and other clients by always striving to score legal victories through litigation, arbitration or securing win-win results through aggressive negotiations, mediations or conciliations.

The firm holds the view that lawyers are social engineers who must be involved in the making of any nation. The firm is therefore committed to being a leading defender of the rule of law and advocate for good governance. It is our view that an environment where there is a functional rule of law and good governance, is the best form of security for legal and business interests.

### Ethical policies

- The firm maintains zero tolerance for corruption, bribery and any unethical means of doing business or achieving legal results.
- The firm also maintains zero tolerance towards sexual exploitation, harassment or abuse and all forms of gender discrimination.
- We maintain zero tolerance for child exploitation, human/child trafficking, pedophilia and all forms of child abuse.
- We also maintain a zero-tolerance policy on all forms of money laundering, terrorism and the financing of terrorist activities.
- We maintain a strict policy of inclusion and diversity and maintain zero tolerance for tribalism, ethnicism, partisanship and discrimination in all its forms.
- We maintain a strict policy on respect for the Constitution of Sierra Leone, international treaties and norms and adherence to the rule of law.
- We maintain a strict policy of non-violent means of resolving conflicts and disputes such as through litigation, mediation, negotiation, conciliation, advocacy and ethical lobbying.
- We are result and service delivery oriented, we therefore maintain a strict work and time policy delivering accurate results within the shortest possible time.

## **KEY VALUES OF THE FIRM**

### **Trust**

Trust is the cornerstone of our firm's practice. It is the lifeline of what we do and how we do it. It is the foremost principle which regulates our conduct as lawyers and our business in servicing the needs of our clients. We strive to always earn our clients' trust by ensuring that we provide adequate legal representation which is accurate and cost-effective. Our firm's partners pride themselves in high moral values, outstanding personal integrity and commitment to ethical values which clients can always bank on for sound ethical advice and corrupt-proof solutions to their legal needs. We endeavour to always create the space for mutual trust between us and our clients in order to be able to fully comprehend the needs of our clients and to provide excellent services.

### **Innovation**

Innovation lies at the core of our delivery of legal services. Our firm recognizes that the modern world is constantly innovating to meet the demands of the era. With technology at the fore of global advancement, our firm leverages current digital systems, technology and virtual tools to deliver efficient and exceptional services to our clients. We are driven by innovation at all times in meeting the demands of our clients and providing them with technical solutions based on the law. We are not only committed to embracing new ideas but also adapting to current trends and products so as to give maximum satisfaction to our clients.

### **Efficiency**

Our team pursues excellence at all times and they do so efficiently. We believe that delivering results for our clients in an accurate and timely manner saves them money and the stress of uncertainty. Our team adopts the best available legal means to achieve optimal results for our clients. We are not only committed to only winning cases but also providing efficient alternative modes of settlement or dispute resolution mechanisms. We view the efficiency of our legal and consultancy services and products as our principal marketing strategy.

## AREA OF PRACTICE

Our firm engages in general practice and in the provision of both solicitor and advocate services as is the legal regime in Sierra Leone.

Our firm's partners are practising legal practitioners and have among them over twenty years' experience in the practice of law and general provision of legal services. The partners also have a long history of working with corporate entities such as financial institutions, multinational companies and individual business people in cutting deals, recovering debts and resolving commercial disputes. We also provide sound guidance on corporate governance and help business entities structure their outfits in compliance with the law and to maximize profits.

We advise non-governmental organisations both local and international in setting up in Sierra Leone. We provide legal services in regard their incorporation or registration process, employment matters and provide them corporate secretarial services, consultancy, and other ranging services.

Our legal consultancy services are drawn from the partners' extensive experience in providing legal consultancies for both national and international entities on domestic law, international law, human rights law, corporate and business law.

Our firm boasts a broad-based clientele ranging from boutique commercial businesses to diplomatic and consular missions, state-owned agencies, parastatals, non-governmental organizations (both local and international), financial institutions, multinational corporations, distinguished statesmen, reputable business persons and senior private citizens.

Our services are retained by leading commercial banks, financial institutions, international and local not-for-profit entities, mobile network operators, insurance companies, charitable organisations, religious groups, corporate entities in addition to the large number of individual clientele we represent.

## CIVIL PRACTICE

Our civil practice is in the following areas:

*Adoption*

*Admiralty Law*

*Arbitration (domestic and International)*

*Banking/Finance Law*

*Commercial/Business Law and Litigation*

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*Copyright*  
*Corporate Law*  
*Conveyancing Law*  
*Employment and Labour Law*  
*General Practice (Individuals, entities-both profit and charities)*  
*Human Rights and Advocacy Law*  
*Immigration Law*  
*Intellectual Property Law*  
*International Criminal Law*  
*International Investment Law*  
*International Law*  
*International Criminal Law*  
*International Trade Law*  
*Natural Resources law*  
*Oil & Gas Law*  
*Property Law*  
*Real Estates*  
*Taxation Law*  
*Telecommunications*  
*Transportation*  
*Trusts & Estates*

## CRIMINAL PRACTICE

We provide ranging legal services in criminal matters such as representation the police stations, Criminal Investigations Department (CID) and at the Anti-Corruption Commission.

We file and prosecute private criminal summonses in the Magistrates' Court and represent on fiats from the state, complainants/victims in criminal matters instituted at the instance of the state both in the Magistrates' and High courts.

We also provide defence representation for accused/defendant in the Magistrates' Court and the superior court of judicature. We only provide legal support and defence representation to clients being investigated or prosecuted by the Anti-Corruption Commission for a corruption offence, where we reasonably believe that the clients were innocent or were not complicit in the crime.

Our criminal practice extends from the Magistrates' Court right through to the High Court, Court of Appeal and Supreme Court.

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## MEET THE TEAM

### ***Augustine Sorie-sengbe Marrah esq.*** ***Managing Partner***

Augustine Sorie-sengbe Marrah is a leading civil and commercial litigator, top constitutional expert and democracy activist. He graduated top of class from the Sierra Leone Law School in 2009 and has been in legal practice for over ten years. He spent his first seven years of practice in Sierra Leone's leading law firm—Yada Williams and Associates. He has offered ranging legal and consultancy services to top corporate/commercial entities, national and international human right and charitable institutions and highly distinguished individuals. He has litigated few international commercial arbitrations before the London Court of International Arbitration and the International Chamber of Commerce Arbitration Court. He is co-counsel in an action brought by the Association of Ebola survivors in Sierra Leone against the Republic of Sierra Leone at the ECOWAS Community Court of Justice.

He sits on the Pharmacy Board of Sierra Leone and was a member of the Board of directors of the Sierra Leone Cable Limited, the sole entity responsible for wholesale internet services in Sierra Leone. He was recently appointed, one of a seven-member team, to craft the national anti-corruption strategy for 2019-2023.

Augustine served as secretary of the regulatory body for lawyers in Sierra Leone (General Legal Council) and its disciplinary committee for two consecutive years. He is a member of the Sierra Leone bar Association, the International Bar Association and the Commonwealth Lawyers Association. He currently runs his own law firm in Sierra Leone—Marrah & Associates.

### **Ms. Saramba Kandeh** ***Senior Partner***

Ms. Kandeh is a Barrister and Solicitor of the High Court of Sierra Leone with over ten years of local and international legal experience. She has expertise in International Human Rights Law, International Law, Women, Peace, and Security, and Conflict, Security, and Development. She has served as a Legal and Gender Advisor for AIDS-Free World, an international advocacy organization since 2016. She is also part of the legal team working to bring a civil action against Yahya Jammeh, the former president of The

Gambia, on behalf of people living with HIV/AIDS. Before joining AIDS-Free World, she worked with The Advocates for Human Rights in Minnesota U.S.A as an International Justice Research Fellow.

In Sierra Leone, Ms. Kandeh provided a wide range of legal services to individuals and companies while working at the Law Firm of Tejan-Jalloh and Dabor, as well as to abused women, and indigent Sierra Leoneans through her work with several local NGOs. These include, among others, Timap for Justice, as its Deputy Director, a local NGO that provided essential justice services through community-based paralegals, and AdvocAid Sierra Leone, as Duty Counsel, where she represented female accused persons in court regularly. She has served as the Public Relations and Organizing Secretary of Legal Access through Women Yearning for Equality, Rights and Social Justice (L.A.W.Y.E.R.S), and as Supervisor of the Human Rights Clinic, Fourah Bay College.

Ms. Kandeh is an alumna of the Women, Peace, and Security Fellowships at King's College London/ African Leadership Centre, and a Junior Professional Fellow of the International Peace Institute (New York). During her fellowship at King's, Ms. Kandeh undertook academic and technical training in the Masters in Peace, Security, and Development programme, which included an attachment with the ECOWAS Commission in Abuja, Nigeria, in 2010. She is currently a member of the Technical Committee of the Tana High-Level Forum on Peace and Security in Africa.

Ms. Kandeh holds a Master of Laws (LL.M) in International Human Rights Law from the University of Notre Dame law school (Indiana, U.S.A, 2014), a degree of Utter Barrister (Bar License Certificate) from the Council of Legal Education, Sierra Leone Law School (2009), and a Bachelor of Laws (LLB Hons.) from Fourah Bay College, University of Sierra Leone (2008).

### **Ms. Mariam Koroma**

#### ***Junior Partner***

Mariam is a barrister and solicitor called to the Sierra Leone bar in 2018. Mariam has experience in general legal practice. As a pupil barrister at KMK Solicitors, a law firm in Sierra Leone, Mariam worked on several briefs for some of the firm's clients that were assigned to her including Vista Bank, Union Trust Bank, Plan International and Purposeful Productions, during which she acquired experience in commercial corporate law and general practice.

Mariam served as an intern on a rule of law project at the Sierra Leone Legal Information Institute (Sierra Lii), a non-profit organization that facilitates access to justice by providing free access to the nation's legal information. The legal information that was mobilized still remains the leading source for legal research in Sierra Leone.

Mariam is also a member of Legal Access Through Women Yearning for Equality and Social Justice (L.A.W.Y.E.R.S) a charitable organization of female lawyers providing free legal representation to vulnerable women and girls in Sierra Leone.

#### **ADMINISTRATIVE/CLERICAL STAFF**

1. Legal & Admin. Assistant – Ms. Henrietta Kargbo
2. Clerks/Process Server – Mr. Hamid Bangura  
Mr. Aruna Kamara
3. Office Assistant – Mr. Tommy Mayeney