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By DAVID BROWN and JONAS ARNES • UPDATED: 00:04 BST, 1 June 2017
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Judge Orders Obasanjo, Lawan, Gbajabiamila, Others To Appear In Court Over Alleged Forgery Of Letter Of Resignation

Proceeding has arrived at the Federal Capital Territory Judicial Division in Abuja, where Former President Olusegun Obasanjo, Senate President Godswill Akpabio, Speaker Femi Gbajabiamila, and others are being summoned to appear in court on a criminal matter.

The proceeding was arranged by Justice Emmanuel Ekpe Ekwo of the Federal Capital Territory High Court in Abuja following a complaint filed by Barrister Ibrahim Ibrahim, who alleged that a letter purporting to contain a notice of resignation was forged.

In his complaint, Barrister Ibrahim Ibrahim stated that the letter, which was allegedly signed by Obasanjo and submitted to the National Assembly, was fraudulent and was being used to mislead the public and to cause confusion.

The defendants named in the suit include Olusegun Obasanjo, Godswill Akpabio, Femi Gbajabiamila, and Clerk of the National Assembly Nelson Ewuzie.

Proceedings started with Obasanjo being called first to the witness stand. He testified that he did not resign from the Senate, that he did not write any letter of resignation, and that the letter being circulated was not his work.

Akpabio then took the witness stand and testified that he had never received any letter of resignation from Obasanjo and that the letter was not part of the National Assembly's official records.

Gbajabiamila also testified that he had never received any such letter and that the document was not part of the House of Representatives' official records.

Ewuzie, the Clerk of the National Assembly, testified that the letter was not recorded in the National Assembly's official records and that it was not part of the Senate's or House's official records.

Barrister Ibrahim Ibrahim, the complainant, testified that he had never met Obasanjo and had never received any letter from him. He said he had filed the complaint because he was concerned that the letter was being used to mislead the public and to cause confusion.

Justice Ekwo then adjourned the matter to 14 April 2026 for cross-examination of the witnesses and for the court to hear the matter.

Proceedings Resume After Long Adjournment, Prosecution Begins Cross-Examination

Proceedings resumed after a long adjournment, with the court hearing the matter for the first time since the witnesses testified in chief. The prosecution began its cross-examination of the witnesses.

Barrister Ibrahim Ibrahim, the complainant, was the first witness to be cross-examined. He testified that he had never met Obasanjo and had never received any letter from him. He said he had filed the complaint because he was concerned that the letter was being used to mislead the public and to cause confusion.

The prosecution then cross-examined Akpabio, who testified that he had never received any letter of resignation from Obasanjo and that the letter was not part of the National Assembly's official records.

Gbajabiamila also testified that he had never received any such letter and that the document was not part of the House of Representatives' official records.

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Prosecution Begins Cross-Examination Of Witnesses, Court Hears Matter For The First Time

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Court Adjourns Case Over Alleged Forged Letter Of Resignation, Prosecution Begins Cross-Examination

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