

FINALS

JURITRUST CENTRE ADMINISTRATION OF CRIMINAL JUSTICE ACADEMY NATIONAL MOOT COMPETITION 2025/2026

Note: All Teams will submit written briefs for the state as well as defence. However, the two teams that qualify for the finals will each argue for either the defence or prosecution. Positions will be assigned on the eve of the finals.

MOOT FACTS FOR FINALS

Ms. Aisha Ngozi Kemi (Aisha) is a high-profile cybersecurity expert in the employ of AJOBOY systems – I.T. systems engineers and service providers to Rhapsody Bank (the bank). In January 2025, she discovered a critical “backdoor” in the digital vault of the bank, which could allow anyone to alter the Social Security Number (SSN) linked to bank accounts.

Instead of immediately reporting to her employers Aisha:

1. accessed the bank’s mainframe to demonstrate its vulnerability, accidentally downloading the Know Your Customer (KYC) data of 5,000 high-net-worth individuals.
2. sent an anonymous email to the Bank CEO demanding a “consultancy fee” of ₦50 Million to disclose the location of the “backdoor” and delete the downloaded data.

The bank promptly alerted the Department of National Security and Aisha was arrested. Investigators subsequently found in her apartment ₦200 Million in cash and three Bitcoin hardware wallets, despite her having no record of formal employment for three years.

The State charged her under Section 6 & 24 of the Cybercrimes Act (as amended in 2024) for unauthorized access and cyberstalking/extortion. The State also filed an *ex parte* application under Section 9 of the Proceeds of Crime (Recovery and Management) Act 2022 for a Preservation Order on her apartment and the ₦200 Million, on the grounds that they amounted to “unexplained wealth” and likely “proceeds of unlawful activity.”

The State and the defence will submit briefs and argue on the following issues -

1. Whether *mens rea* is present where a professional in the course of her duty to troubleshoot potential problems accidentally accessed and downloaded sensitive data like KYC data
2. Whether the anonymous demand for a “consultancy fee” in exchange for disclosing a security flaw is established by mere fact that Aisha is living a lifestyle in excess of legitimate income and whether the demand even if traced to Aisha constitutes the offence of Cyberstalking or Extortion under Section 24 of the amended Cybercrimes Act.”
3. Whether a Preservation Order can be validly maintained over the Defendant’s assets under Section 9 of the Proceeds of Crime (Recovery and Management) Act 2022, on the basis of ‘unexplained wealth,’ before the underlying criminal charges of cybercrime have been proven.