

# Getting the Trademark Registration Certificate in Nigeria

June 18, 2017 | by Ufuoma Akpotaire



Anyone who has filed a trademark application in Nigeria will tell you that completing the process and obtaining the trademark registration certificate can often be very tasking.

During the process, you may find yourself playing the waiting game as the process may last anywhere between 24 – 48 months. Sometimes, the process lasts even longer and all you may be able to do during many months, is wait.

A large part of the delay is often attributed to the fact that the Trademark Registry releases only one or two Trademark Journals annually, containing approximately 4,500 trademarks and resulting in a massive backlog of unpublished trademark applications.

When a trademark is finally published, most attorneys and applicants usually feel a great sense of relief as they anticipate applying for the certificate of registration, provided there is no opposition to the application.

If there is no opposition, applicants can apply for the certificate of registration two months from the date of the publication of the Trademarks Journal. Typically, applicants are required to pay a separate fee for this process and the certificate will issue shortly thereafter.

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### **About Ufuoma Akpotaire ›**



Ufuoma is a Senior Editor and Director of Regulatory Policy at NLIPW. She assists clients in the protection of copyrights, trademarks and patents. She counsels clients regarding validity and infringement matters and has experience acting against the infringement of IP and addressing counterfeit issues. She holds a Masters degree (LL.M.) from Columbia Law School, New York and a law degree from the University of Nigeria (LL.B. Honors). She is admitted to practice law in Nigeria and in the State of New York. Ufuoma cut her teeth in the intellectual property practice groups of some of the largest law firms in Nigeria and has years of experience working with major non-profit organizations in New York. Email: [uakpotaire@nlipw.com](mailto:uakpotaire@nlipw.com)

*This article was originally published in Trademarks Law Vol. 3 No. 4 Digest on Nigerian Law Intellectual Property Watch (NLIPW), now Nooktoria Legal Resource.*