



## **PUBLIC STATEMENT re: Jos High Court**

It will be recalled that the League Management Company (LMC) had earlier issued a statement in respect of the case filed by one Mustapha Abubakar purportedly on behalf of GIWA F.C before the High Court of Jos in Plateau State. In the notice we informed the public that the LMC had appealed against the order of Justice I.I. Kunda made on ex parte application of the plaintiff directing that Giwa FC be reinstated to the league. Along with the appeal LMC also filed a motion before the Court of Appeal, Jos for a stay of proceedings pending determination of the appeal. Based on that, LMC indicated that the league would continue.

The LMC authoritatively confirms that the Court of Appeal has fixed the motion filed by LMC for stay of proceedings in the Jos High Court for Monday 19<sup>th</sup> September, 2016. In his ruling on another motion filed by Mustapha Abubakar before the High Court notwithstanding LMC's motion for stay of execution fixed for hearing on Monday 19<sup>th</sup> September, 2016, Justice Kunda agreed that having regard to the motion pending before the Court of Appeal, he had no jurisdiction to hear Mustapha's motion and he struck it out. But surprisingly, notwithstanding his concession that he had no jurisdiction to entertain Mustapha's motion, the judge still went ahead to make an order to stop the league even when there was no motion before him for same. LMC appealed against that order and filed a motion before the Court of Appeal for stay of the order.

Not satisfied yet, Mustapha purported to have served on the LMC forms 48 and 49 and based on those forms Justice Kunda who had earlier declined jurisdiction to entertain the motion filed by Mustapha in view of the matters pending before the Court of Appeal, served hearing notice on counsel to LMC. Of course, counsel to LMC went to Jos High court to raise objection based on lack of personal service of forms 48 and 49 on the Chairman, Mr Shehu Dikko and the Chief Operating Officer, Mr Salihu Abubakar of LMC. However shockingly, the judge said that service on the company was sufficient and he rejected the objection. He then proceeded to make an order committing the



