

ABOUT RIC DEAN – Sarah K. OGBOZOR

Sarah Kelechi Ogbozor is, without any doubt, the architect of the Reynolds Institute of Criminology (RIC) establishing itself in Nigeria at this moment. She singly and handedly convinced Mr. Reynolds, the President of RIC, to come to Lagos to set-up the institute as a way to help not only the criminal justice system in order to bring innovation to the way police officers are handle perpetrators as well as victims of crimes, such as the undermining of the system through corruption, delays and backlogs, prison overcrowding, lack of resources, low crime reporting, inadequate training, executive influence, and gender biases; but also, the judicial system that is facing many challenges such as congestion of cases in the courts, delays in the prompt resolution of cases, a punitive and retributive approach to crime with little or no room for restitution and reparation of victims of crimes.

Nevertheless, from a humble upbringing, Sarah graduated in 2014 with a bachelor's degree in banking and finance from Lagos State University. In October 2015, during her National Youth Service Corps (NYSC) mandatory one-year service program for Nigerian university students, she was given a position at the Civil Service Commission, block 9 in Alausa, in Ikeja to work in the accounting department. This mandatory service is designed to foster national unity and development by encouraging university graduates to serve in communities outside their own state of origin. Following her mandatory service at the NYSC, she started working in 2017 as an examination supervisor in the Nigerian Armed Forces Resettlement Centre (NAFRC) in Lagos. She worked for five years as a lecturer at Yabatech Consults in Lagos. In 2023, she graduated from the Regional University of Industrial Engineering, Biotechnologies and Applied Sciences (IRGIB-Africa University Benin Republic) with distinction with a master's degree in security and safety management. The same year, because of her passion for education, she received her graduate Diploma in occupational security, health, environmental and safety management with distinction from Yabatech College of Technology Lagos. She received also an international executive diploma in Disaster Management. However, her curiosity and her zeal for education as well as the criminal justice field introduced her to Forensic Science and Fraud Investigation.

Working as the Dean of Reynolds Institute of Criminology (RIC), Sarah sees criminology as a science that will positively benefit law enforcement officers in Nigeria. She believes in motivating herself to lead by example in advancing through learning by assiduously pursuing her Ph.D. in Criminal Justice with a minor in Public Administration from the National University, California (USA). She enjoys helping people, particularly young disadvantage women, to advance their careers and influencing strategic business decisions. Her ultimate goal is to take RIC to a level that will impact both the criminal justice system and the judicial system for the good of the Nigerian people.