

## Diepreye Alamiyeseigha (United States)

**Case ID:**

ARW-55

**Jurisdiction of Origin of Public Official or Entity Allegedly Involved:**

Nigeria

**Position of Public Official(s) (yrs in office):**

Governor (1999-2005)

**Jurisdiction of Asset Recovery:**

United States

**Jurisdiction of Asset Recovery ? Description:**

Undertaking Recovery Effort, Location of Recovery Effort, Asset Location / Alleged Asset Location

**Asset Recovery Start:**

2011

**Asset Recovery End:**

Ongoing

**UNCAC Offenses Implicated:**

Art.20

Art.23

**Money laundering Implicated:**

Yes

**Legal Basis for Asset Recovery:**

Non-Conviction Based Confiscation

**Intl.Cooperation: MLAT/Letter of Request?:**

Unknown

**Basis for Intl Cooperation:**

Unknown

**Contributing Factors in Asset Recovery:**

Both actions brought through the US Department of Justice's Kleptocracy Asset Recovery Initiative

**Status of Asset Recovery :**

Ongoing

**Stage in Asset Recovery Chain:**

Final Judgment (No Appeal)

**Assets Adjudicated, Not Yet Returned - Description:**

Value of Massachusetts account and estimated value of Maryland house

**Agreement for Returned Assets:**

Ongoing

**Agreement for Returned Assets - Description:**

NA

**Case Summary:**

The United States obtained Default Judgments in Maryland (house valued at over \$700,000) and in Massachusetts against approximately \$400,000 in a Fidelity investment account. (Sources: US v. Real Property titled in the name of Solomon & Peters, located at 504 Pleasant Drive..., Case No. 8:11-cv-00662-RWT (D. Md.), Default Judgment of May 24, 2013;

US v. The Contents of Account Number Z44-343021, Case No. 1:11-cv-10606-RWZ (D. Mass.), Order Final Judgment and Forfeiture filed June 13, 2012). The forfeiture actions had been brought under the Justice Department's Kleptocracy Asset Recovery Initiative. (Source: U.S. Department of Justice, "Assistant Attorney General Lanny A. Bruer of the Criminal Division Speaks at the Franz-Hermann Bruner Memorial Lecture at the World Bank," May 25, 2011.)

According to the complaint in the case, the residence's owner of record is Solomon & Peters, Ltd. a now defunct company incorporated in the British Virgin Islands. (Source: US v. Real Property titled in the name of Solomon & Peters, located at 504 Pleasant Drive..., Case No. 8:11-cv-00662-RWT (D. Md.), Verified Complaint for Forfeiture filed March 11, 2011.)

According to a June 13, 2012 Order for Final Judgment and Forfeiture issued by the US federal court in Massachusetts, "The contents of account number Z44-343021 held at Fidelity Brokerage Services, LLC., Boston, Massachusetts, in the name of Nicholas Aiyegbemi d/b/a/ Inadinov and Co. OAO, which account is believed to contain approximately \$386,080, and all assets traceable thereto," were forfeited to the United States after all those parties with potential claims to the funds were notified but did not respond. (Source: US v. The Contents of Account Number Z44-343021, Case No. 1:11-cv-10606-RWZ (D. Mass.), Order Final Judgment and Forfeiture filed June 13, 2012; Verified Complaint for Forfeiture In Rem filed April 8, 2011.)

**Disposition of Criminal Case(s):**

According to the December 3, 2007 UK High Court decision in Nigeria v. Santolina Investment Corp and Ors, Mr. Alamieyeseigha entered a guilty plea in Nigeria's High Court to six counts of making false declaration of assets. According to the same judgment, Mr. Alamieyeseigha was arrested at Heathrow Airport in September 2005 by officers of the Metropolitan Police and initially remanded but later granted bail. In breach of his bail requirements, he left UK and returned to Nigeria in November 2005. (Source: Nigeria v. Santolina Investment Corp and Ors, [2007] EWHC 3053 (Q.B.)) In March 2013, he was pardoned in Nigeria. (Source: BBC News, "Nigeria pardons Goodluck Jonathan ally, Alamieyeseigha," March 13, 2013.)

**Jurisdiction of Origin: Investigative Agency:**

Economic and Financial Crimes Commission

**Jurisdiction of Origin: Prosecuting Authority/Civil Attorney(s):**

Economic and Financial Crimes Commission

**Jurisdiction of Origin: Courts Involved:**

Federal High Court (Lagos)

**Jurisdiction of Asset Recovery: Investigative Agency:**

Homeland Security Investigation's Asset Identification & Removal Group (AIRG) in Baltimore, Immigration and Customs Enforcement

**Jurisdiction of Asset Recovery: Prosecuting Authority/Civil Attorney(s):**

Department of Justice, Criminal Division, Asset Forfeiture and Money Laundering Section; United States Attorney's Office for the District of Maryland

**Jurisdiction of Asset Recovery: Courts Involved:**

District Court for the District of Maryland; District Court for the District of Massachusetts

**Documents:**

Alamieyeseigha\_US\_DOJ\_Lanny\_Bruer\_Speech\_at\_World\_Bank\_May\_25\_2011.pdf




Alamieyeseigha\_MD\_Complaint\_8-11-cv-00662-RWT\_March\_2011

Alamieyeseigha\_MD\_Court\_Docket\_Report\_Oct\_26\_2011

Alamieyeseigha\_Mass\_Complaint\_1-11-cv-10606-RWZ\_April\_2011

Alamieyeseigha\_Mass\_Docket\_Report\_Oct\_26\_2011

**Documents:**

<b>Attachment</b>	<b>Size</b>
 Alamiyeseigha_MD_Forfeit_DOJ_PR_May_31_2013.pdf	348.53 KB
 Alamiyeseigha_US_MD_Decree_Forfeiture_May_24_2013.pdf	2.3 MB
 Alamiyeseigha_Pardon_BBC_News_Mar_13_2013.pdf	172.36 KB

**Documents Links:****Other Sources:**

US Department of Justice press release, "Rockville, Md., Property Purchased with Nigerian Corruption Proceeds Forfeited Through Justice Department's Kleptocracy Initiative," May 31, 2013, at <http://www.justice.gov/opa/pr/2013/May/13-crm-628.html>; U.S. Department of Justice, "Assistant Attorney General Lanny A. Bruer of the Criminal Division Speaks at the Franz-Hermann Bruner Memorial Lecture at the World Bank," May 25, 2011, accessed at <http://www.justice.gov/criminal/pr/speeches/2011/crm-speech-110525.html>;

US v. Real Property titled in the name of Solomon & Peters, located at 504 Pleasant Drive..., Case No. 8:11-cv-00662-RWT (D. Md.), Verified Complaint for Forfeiture filed March 11, 2011; Default judgment of May 24, 2013;

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BBC News, "Nigeria pardons Goodluck Jonathan ally, Alamiyeseigha," March 13, 2013, at <http://www.bbc.com/news/world-africa-21769047>.