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Chinye Uwechue

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THE RISKS OF PROVIDING PRO BONO SERVICES TO "DAVID" AGAINST "GOLIATH" SHOULD NOT BE SO IN MY VERY HUMBLE OPINION.

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Blog dated October 23, 2015, by Chinye Uwechue, Esq. at Pacific Atlantic Law Corporation, Woodland Hills, California.

I was recently involved in an essentially *pro bono* matter that was quite an eye opener. The questions that it raised in my mind include: (1) why did the procedural events occur; (2) why did the judicial system in California respond in the way that it did; (3) how can we (lawyers, judges and interested parties) work together to prevent such a thing happening again; (4) how can we work together to establish for all a just and equitable judicial system in California. A system that we can be proud of. After all today's "David" could be tomorrow's "Goliath" and vice versa. (See *Llanos v Bank of America* - Petition for Review - case # S227735 for a summary of some of the events I am referring to.)^[1]

During the litigation process and outside the courthouse unusual things occurred. I have been in practice for more than 15 years and before I represented Ms. Llanos I had never experienced the strange happenings that ensued. For example: (1) during settlement negotiations, quite out of the blue, while I was in my office, I received an anonymous call from a male voice saying that the bank was suing me. I asked to be sent the complaint and the male voice refused even after I told him I would have to be served in any event. Then weeks/months later I received strange documents purporting to be a statement for a credit card. Yet I have not had/used/owned a credit card for almost 10 years. Then months later I received a dismissal document where the company suing me said that they could not find me to serve me. I was never served with a complaint. (2) Last year my

tax documents (containing sensitive financial information and social security numbers etc...) went missing for several months. For years my accountant had been mailing me the documents then suddenly they went missing between two cities (both in the San Fernando Valley in California) that are only a distance of 7 miles apart. I eventually received the documents many many many months after they had been mailed with the correct amount of stamps and the envelope was properly addressed (I actually thought that they had gone permanently missing). Some may say it is all a coincidence. Often when it was a few days to a deadline (that I had to meet in the case) my computer would go "funny" – I grant you that could be a series of coincidences – as for the other incidents we will never really know one way or the other. However, in my opinion, the procedural events that occurred within the judicial system itself were not coincidences. **I leave you to decide for yourself – the Petition for Review (case # S227735) that is attached to my LinkedIn profile summarizes some of the events that occurred.**

Chinye Uwechue, Esq. at Pacific Atlantic Law Corporation, Woodland Hills, California.

 [Petition for Review \(case # S227735\) that is attached to my LinkedIn profile.](#)



Written by
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