

**COMPLAINT TO THE GENERAL LEGAL COUNCIL**  
**Submitted by DANIEL KWAME OFOSU-APPIAH**

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**IN THE MATTER OF PROFESSIONAL MISCONDUCT BY MR. GODFRED  
YEBOAH DAME, FORMER ATTORNEY-GENERAL AND MINISTER FOR  
JUSTICE  
SUBMITTED PURSUANT TO SECTION 18 OF THE LEGAL PROFESSION  
ACT, 1960 (ACT 32)**

May 22, 2025

General Legal Council

Disciplinary Committee

Judicial Service Administrative Block, Supreme Court,

P.O. Box 179,

Accra.

Dear Sir/Madam,

**COMPLAINANTS OF PROFESSIONAL MISCONDUCT AGAINST  
THE FORMER ATTORNEY - GENERAL OF THE REPUBLIC OF  
GHANA, MR.GODFRED YEBOAH DAME**

## INTRODUCTION

This complaint is submitted pursuant to **Section 18 of the Legal Profession Act, 1960 (Act 32)**, which provides that “*a person*” may lodge “*any complaint*” relating to the **conduct of a lawyer**, and such complaint **SHALL** be referred to the **Disciplinary Committee of the General Legal Council**. In accordance with this provision, I bring this complaint as a citizen of the Republic of Ghana, with a vested constitutional and civic duty to uphold the integrity of the legal profession and the administration of justice.

My **locus standi** is derived from **Article 41(b) of the 1992 Constitution**, which imposes a duty on every citizen to uphold and defend the **Constitution and the law**. This responsibility includes taking steps to ensure accountability in public office, especially when constitutional values and the rule of law are at stake.

This petition concerns a confirmed instance of **professional misconduct** by the former Attorney-General and Minister for Justice, **Mr. Godfred Yeboah Dame**, in the matter of **The Republic v. Dr. Cassiel Ato Forson & Anor. (Suit No. CR/0198/2022)**. In that matter, a private audio recording capturing a conversation between **Mr. Godfred Yeboah Dame** and the third accused, **Mr. Richard Jakpa**, was admitted by the court as **Exhibit 9 for A1**. The contents of this recording reveal Mr. Dame attempting to influence the testimony of Mr. Jakpa in a manner that interferes with the judicial process, compromises prosecutorial impartiality, and undermines the constitutional **right to a fair trial** under **Article 19(2) of the 1992 Constitution**. The fact that this recording has been admitted into evidence by the trial court and court of appeal moves the matter from the realm of mere allegation into that

of judicially recognized conduct, requiring urgent professional and ethical scrutiny.

## **2. FACTUAL BACKGROUND**

On **13th June 2024**, **Her Ladyship Justice Afia Serwah Asare-Botwe (Mrs.)**, presiding over the High Court in Criminal Case No. **CR/0198/2022**, ruled on the admissibility of an audio recording between Mr. Godfred Yeboah Dame and Mr. Richard Jakpa, the third accused. The audio is mark herewith as **Exhibit A**, and the written ruling on admissibility mark as **Exhibit B**.

That same day, under oath and cross-examination, Mr. Jakpa informed the court that he had met with the former Attorney-General on four occasions at a private residence belonging to his cousin (**See exhibit C**). Furthermore, he testified that they had exchanged **WhatsApp messages**, including messages in which the Attorney-General requested documents from him. These **WhatsApp messages** were also tendered into evidence as **Exhibit 10 for A1 (exhibit C)**.

These communications occurred **outside court**, during the pendency of a criminal trial, and without the knowledge or involvement of Mr. Jakpa's legal counsel. This conduct raises serious **ethical** and **professional** issues, particularly for a lawyer serving as the principal legal officer of the State.

### **3. RELEVANT PROFESSIONAL RULES BREACHED**

The actions described above amount to professional misconduct under the following provisions of the **Legal Profession (Professional Conduct and Etiquette) Rules, 2020 (L.I. 2423)**:

1. **Rule 1(c): Failure to act with honesty, integrity, and professionalism.**
2. **Rule 8(1): Engaging in conduct involving deceit or misrepresentation.**
3. **Rule 13(1)(a) & (b): Direct communication with a represented party on matters of representation.**
4. **Rule 54: Attempt to improperly influence a witness or the outcome of proceedings.**
5. **Rule 61: Conduct likely to discredit the legal profession.**
6. **Rule 76(2)(a): Compromise of the administration of justice.**
7. **Rule 89(a): Any breach of the above constitutes professional misconduct.**

In addition, **Rule 9(4) of the Legal Profession (Professional Conduct and Etiquette) Rules, 1969 (L.I. 613)** reinforces the longstanding obligation of fairness in prosecutorial conduct.

### **4. SANCTIONS**

Pursuant to **Section 16 of the Legal Profession Act, 1960 (Act 32)**, the Disciplinary Committee may, upon determining that a lawyer has engaged in

misconduct, impose appropriate sanctions, including **reprimand, suspension, or removal from the roll of lawyers.**

Given the nature of the conduct and the seniority of the lawyer involved, I respectfully urge the Committee to consider this matter with the utmost seriousness and in accordance with the law and ethical standards.

## **5. CONCLUSION**

The conduct of the former Attorney-General, Mr. Godfred Yeboah Dame, as confirmed by the admission of audio and electronic evidence in open court, raises grave concerns about professional ethics, prosecutorial propriety, and the independence of the judicial process. His actions have undermined public confidence in the legal profession and the justice system, and they constitute a clear breach of the rules governing lawyers in Ghana.

I submit this complaint in the public interest and in fulfilment of my constitutional obligation as a citizen. I respectfully call on the Disciplinary Committee to investigate this matter fully and take appropriate disciplinary action in line with the law.

Respectfully submitted.

DANIEL OFOSU-APPIAH

CC:

1. The Acting Chief Justice,  
His Lordship Paul Baffoe-Bonnie,  
Accra, Ghana.