

# Anti-graft Group Challenge Gov. Dauda Lawal Over CCB Wealth Declarations

In a recent press briefing an Anti-Graft group under the aegis of Advocate for Social Justice (ASJ) has challenged the Zamfara state Governor Dauda Lawal to avail the people of Zamfara state and Nigerians with facts and figures behind his financial deposit declarations with the Code of Conduct Bureau. The group asked the CCB to explain to Nigerians how it verified the submission by the governor including his source of income where applicable. Addressing a press conference in Abuja the Executive Director of the group, Gamji Guana Joseph said documents in the possession of the Organization shows that the incumbent Governor of Zamfara State should be listed on Forbes as one of the richest men in Africa with cash deposit on one account alone out of several others showing a balance of \$5billion. The group lamented that Zamfara state is one of the most affected state on issues of insecurity and terrorism and syndicated illegal mining adding that the state is among the most disadvantaged states in Northern Nigeria. According to Joseph a brief biography of Governor Lawal career path shows that he spent a larger chunk of his career as a banker with First Bank of Nigeria. 'After he left the banking industry in 2014, Lawal alongside his friend Munir Umaru Baba started Credent Capital and Advisory Limited which they launch with an initial capital of \$500 million. They claimed to have invested and managed over \$2billion for 175 + clients across the world since then. Outside these two known career involvements there is no other known ventures he has participated in except politics.' The group

said that in total Gov. Lawal declared a total cash deposit in bank of (a) \$5,013,357,125, (b) N1,522,865,024.00, (c) £841,704.77. 'These monies are deposited in numerous personal accounts in GTB Bank, First Bank and Taj Bank while his Credent Advisory Limited corporate account has fixed income of N200million. We therefore want to use this press conference to call on His Excellency Governor Lawal Dauda to please without further delay avail the people of Zamfara state and Nigerians with facts and figure behind these financial deposit declaration so as to allay their fears that the Governor is not a fraudster or sponsor of terrorism. It is important to note that the plea is not open ended and if the sources of these figures are not made public within the shortest possible time, it is our intent to mobilise Nigerians and the people of Zamfara State to march to the National Assembly and ensure a state of emergency is declared in the state by President Bola Ahmed to enable the authorities and international Agencies conduct proper probe on the Governor's source of wealth to be sure he is not a sponsor of terrorism and illegal mining in Zamfara and Northern Nigeria. We will not only be challenging the authenticity of the figures he declared while exposing sources of earning but also we want to put the CCB an Agency of the Federal Government on notice that they have to explain to Nigerians how they verified the submission including the source of income. The Governor might have immunity from prosecution, but he cannot be immune from revolt from his people and Nigerians.

