

Rt Hon Jacqui Smith MP
Secretary of State for the Home Office
3rd Floor Peel Buildings
2 Marsham Street
London SW1 4DF
Fax: 020 7035 4745

Dear Home Secretary

I have made myself familiar with the case with the case of Kenny Olwole Ogunbowale (HO Reference O1114072; currently detained in Colnbrook IRC and due to be forcibly removed from the UK tomorrow Thursday 9th October on Virgin Atlantic Airways flight VS651 @ 22:30hrs from London Heathrow to Lagos, Nigeria.

Kenny Olwole Ogunbowale is a forty year old single man who in the face of a great number of difficulties has struggled to make a safe home in the UK.

Kenny was forced to flee his home in Nigeria when his father was killed in 2000. His father was killed by political opponents in the O'odua People's Congress. Kenny managed to escape being killed by escaping through the back door of his father's house.

Kenny came to the UK with the help of an agent who lied to him about his legal status and he was forced to work for the agent to pay off his debt to her. After his agent died he continued working in the UK thinking he was working legally.

Kenny has worked hard to make amends and to make a safe home for himself in Glasgow. He attends regularly church at Ibrox Parish Church and is a keen member of the church's bowling team. He is well known and is a regular volunteer at the Unity Centre. During his time in Glasgow he has made many friends and is well-liked.

Kenny is still in danger from the men who killed his father. At the same time, since he came to the UK, his father's four wives and their extended families have occupied his father's property. Kenny is in danger from his family who will see him as a threat to their property rights.

Kenny has lived in the UK for over seven years. He has applied for leave to remain under the Case Resolution process. I support his application.

Kenny is in danger if he is forcibly returned to Nigeria. The most recent US State Dept Human Rights Report on Nigeria, published in March 2007, states that during 2006: *"The government's human rights record remained poor, and government officials at all levels continued to commit serious abuses. The most significant human rights problems included the abridgement of citizens' right to change their government; politically motivated and extrajudicial killings by security forces; vigilante killings; impunity; beatings of prisoners, detainees, and suspected criminals; harsh and life-threatening prison conditions; arbitrary arrest and prolonged pretrial detention; executive interference in the judiciary and judicial corruption; infringements of privacy rights; restrictions on freedom of speech, press, assembly, religion and movement; domestic violence and discrimination against women; female genital mutilation (FGM); child abuse and child sexual exploitation; societal violence; ethnic, regional, and religious discrimination; and trafficking in persons for purposes of prostitution and forced labor."*

I ask you to exercise your powers of discretion, release Kenny and allow him to remain in the UK.

Yours Sincerely,

Name:

Address:

City:

Postcode:

Country:

Date:

Email:

Phone: