CVS – THE LEGISLATIVE POWERS

The legislative powers of the Federal Republic of Nigeria (FRN) is vested in the National Assembly for the Federation which consists of the Senate and the House of Representatives and in the House of Assembly for each State.

The National Assembly

The National Assembly have the power to make laws for the peace, order and good government of the federation or any part of the federation with respect to any matter included in the Exclusive Legislative List which contains the exclusive matters that concerns the legislature. Matters included in the Exclusive Legislative List shall be to the exclusion of the House of Assembly of States. Also, the National Assembly have power to make laws with respect to the matter in the Concurrent Legislative List as it concerns them.

Nigeria, as a federation has a National Assembly which consists of the Senate and the House of Representatives. The Senate consist of three (3) senators from each state and one from the Federal Capital Territory, Abuja. The House of Representatives consist of three hundred and sixty (360) members representing constituencies of nearly equal population. The Senate has a President and a Deputy President who are elected by members of Senate. The House of Representatives has a Speaker and a Deputy Speaker who are elected by member of the House of Representatives.

House of Assembly of States

Each state in Nigeria has a House of Assembly, which consist of 3 or 4 times the number of seats which the state has in the House of Representatives. Each House of Assembly is expected to consist of between twenty-four (24) to forty (40) members. There is a Speaker and a Deputy Speaker in each House of Assembly who is elected by the members of Assembly. The Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC) divides each state of the Federation into such number of constituencies as in equal to three or four times the number of Federal Constituencies within that State.

If any law enacted by the House of Assembly of a state is inconsistent with any law validly made by the National Assembly, the law made by the National Assembly, shall prevail, and that other law shall to the extent of its inconsistency be void.