

Nigeria.

Nigeria's Criminal Code creates duties to provide necessities of life only for people who have charge of another person, not for strangers generally. A 2017 federal Act does require every person to assist a person with gunshot wounds and get them to a hospital, and the same Act has a provision titled to protect volunteers. A federal national service scheme and a company-law route for registering charitable associations are also documented.

Is there a legal duty to help a stranger?

LIMITED

Criminal Code Act sections 300 to 302 impose duties to provide necessities of life on persons having charge of another who cannot provide for themselves, heads of families (children under 14) and masters of servants under 16; these are not duties toward strangers. Section 2(1) of the Compulsory Treatment and Care for Victims of Gunshot Act, 2017 states that every person, including security agents, shall render every possible assistance to any person with gunshot wounds and ensure that the person is taken to the nearest hospital; its table of contents includes an offense of standing by, but that section's text was not read in this research.

Criminal Code Act, Cap. C38 (Laws of the Federation of Nigeria 2004) (Policy and Legal Advocacy Centre (PLAC), reproduction of Laws of Nigeria) Compulsory Treatment and Care for Victims of Gunshot Act, 2017 (judy.legal (commercial legal database reproduction; page shows sections 1 and 2 text and a table of contents)) President Buhari assents to Compulsory Treatment and Care of Victims of Gunshots Act, 2017 (PLAC Legist (Policy and Legal Advocacy Centre; summary))

Are people who help protected?

LIMITED

The Compulsory Treatment and Care for Victims of Gunshot Act, 2017 has a section titled "Protection of volunteer" (table of contents), and a PLAC summary says the Act prevents volunteers who assist gunshot victims from being subjected to unnecessary interrogation; the section's own wording was not read. No Lagos State Good Samaritan law and no general road-accident bystander statute were found in this research.

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How the government promotes giving and service

National Youth Service Corps Act, Cap. N84

Section 1 establishes the National Youth Service Corps, a national service scheme, with objectives including promoting national unity, developing common ties among Nigerian youths and encouraging service in areas of national need; the text also states an objective of removing prejudices among Nigerians of all ethnic groups. The Act as reproduced is the Laws of the Federation edition; later amendments were not reviewed.

Companies and Allied Matters Act 2020, Part F: Incorporated Trustees

Section 823 allows trustees appointed by an association established for religious, educational, literary, scientific, social, development, cultural, sporting or charitable purposes to apply to the Corporate Affairs Commission for registration as a corporate body.

INTERNATIONAL CENTER FOR NOT-FOR-PROFIT LAW (REPRODUCTION; THE FILE'S COVER HEADER READS 2019)

Compulsory Treatment and Care for Victims of Gunshot Act, 2017

Section 1 requires every hospital, public or private, to receive and treat a person with a gunshot wound with or without police clearance, and section 2 places the duty to assist on every person, which makes helping an injured stranger a legally recognized obligation in this one context.

JUDY.LEGAL (COMMERCIAL LEGAL DATABASE REPRODUCTION; PAGE SHOWS SECTIONS 1 AND 2 TEXT AND A TABLE OF CONTENTS)

One thing worth knowing

Nigeria's strongest documented duty toward strangers is narrow: the 2017 gunshot Act extends the duty to assist to "every person" with respect to gunshot victims, while the Criminal Code duties apply only to people in charge of another.

What this does not mean

Criminal Code section numbers are from the Laws of the Federation copy (Cap. C38), and Lagos State has its own criminal law that was not reviewed, so a state-level duty or protection may exist that this guide did not find. The brief's Lagos Good Samaritan and road-traffic bystander protections, and National Health Act emergency treatment, could not be verified from the statute text. Sources are reputable reproductions, not government gazette sites. This is not legal advice. This is a plain-language summary of public sources, not legal advice, and it does not rank countries. No government named here has endorsed this site.