Personal Statement – Josiah Uma

I am an ICT Training Specialist currently working with His Majesty's Prison and Probation Service (HMPPS), Ministry of Justice, United Kingdom and also a and Software Developer passionate about building innovative tools . With over five years of experience in digital technology, I have combined software engineering, AI, and data-driven innovation to transform internal systems and improve operational efficiency in public and private service delivery.

In my current role, I designed and developed the **East of England Probation Service Intranet**, a secure, dynamic web platform now used daily by over 2,000 staff members across multiple offices. This project streamlined internal communications, digitised manual processes, and significantly reduced administrative overhead.

My work received official recognition from the Regional Probation Director, and the system was commended by HM Inspectorate for Probation during the regional inspection — an achievement that remains a major milestone in my career.

Beyond my professional role, I actively contribute to the tech community through **open-source projects** hosted on my GitHub profile. Some of my notable projects include:

- **Lyfchat** – a social networking platform built with Next.js and Supabase that connects users based on shared interests and goals rather than appearances.

- **Eventib** – an event management SaaS platform that integrates Stripe for payments and MySQL for authentication and file storage.

- **Data Engineering Projects** – a series of Python-based data transformation, pipeline automation, and analytics projects, showcasing my practical experience with ETL, data wrangling, and visualization.

As an **AI Champion** for my region, I have been instrumental in promoting AI literacy within the Ministry of Justice. I have trained and mentored staff on emerging AI tools and applications that enhance productivity and automate workflows. My commitment to ethical AI development led me to complete the **British Computer Society's Professional Certificate in Artificial Intelligence**, after which I became a **member of BCS**.

I am passionate about leveraging technology to create impactful and scalable solutions. My next goal is to build innovative products at the intersection of AI, data, and civic technology — tools that improve public and private service efficiency, digital inclusion, and community engagement. The UK's thriving tech ecosystem provides the ideal environment to scale such initiatives, and endorsement from Tech Nation will enable me to collaborate more effectively with other innovators and contribute to the UK's digital growth.

In the future, I plan to:

1. Launch a civic-tech startup focused on intelligent intranet and workflow automation for public and private sector organizations.

2. Mentor emerging developers and data professionals in the UK, particularly from underrepresented backgrounds.

3. Continue open-source contributions in AI and data engineering.

I believe my track record of innovation, recognition, and leadership demonstrates the exceptional talent required to contribute meaningfully to the UK's digital technology sector. I am confident that the Global Talent Visa will enable me to expand my impact and continue delivering transformative technology solutions at a national and global scale.

My public portfolio of projects and achievements are available here: https://josiahuma.site/

Signed:
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