

Months After Killing, Police Arrest Murder Suspect, Bust Motorcycle Robbery Gang In Akwa Ibom

written by Idongesit Ashameri July 2, 2026

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UYO – A man who allegedly killed a fellow villager and disappeared for nearly six months has been arrested by the Akwa Ibom State Police Command.

Police said the suspect, identified as Nsikak Akpan of Ikot Akpan-Edemaya in Ikot Abasi Local Government Area, had been on the Command's wanted list since the January 6, 2026 killing of Markanson, a resident of the same community.

According to the police, the suspect went into hiding immediately after the incident, but was tracked down through months of intelligence gathering, surveillance and coordinated operations before his arrest on June 30.

The Command said the suspect confessed during interrogation, while detectives recovered the locally made Dane gun allegedly used in carrying out the murder.

“The suspect had been on our wanted list for months. Following painstaking intelligence gathering and surveillance, operatives monitored his movements and arrested him. He confessed to the crime, and the Dane gun allegedly used in the murder has been recovered,” the police said.

In a separate operation, police dismantled a suspected armed robbery syndicate believed to be responsible for snatching motorcycles at gunpoint from commuters and riders in Ibiono Ibom and Itu local government areas.

Acting on credible intelligence, operatives raided the gang's hideout at Nasarawa Market in Mbak Itam, where they arrested 22-year-old Destiny Ekong and recovered an unregistered Mate C90 motorcycle suspected to have been stolen.

Follow-up investigations led detectives to another suspect, 50-year-old Anietie John, at whose residence officers recovered a single-barrel gun and eight rounds of live cartridges believed to be linked to the gang's activities.

Police said investigations are continuing to arrest other members of the syndicate who remain at large and to recover additional weapons and stolen property.

Commissioner of Police, CP Baba Mohammed Azare, commended the officers involved in both operations, describing the arrests as evidence of the Command's intensified intelligence-led campaign against violent criminals across the state.

"Our intelligence architecture has been significantly strengthened to detect, disrupt and dismantle criminal networks. Criminals have no safe haven in Akwa Ibom, and anyone involved in crime should either desist or be prepared to face the full weight of the law," the Commissioner said.

The police also appealed to residents to sustain their support by providing timely and credible information, assuring them that all intelligence supplied to the Command would be treated with strict confidentiality as efforts continue to rid the state of violent crime.