

2 dead, 3 hospitalized in petrol tanker accident

AUGUSTINE ANIOKE, Abakaliki

At least two persons lost their lives at the weekend a petrol tanker carrying petroleum products fell in Ntezi-Amuzu community along Abakaliki-Afikpo expressway, Ezza South Local government area of Ebonyi State.

Daily Champion reliably gathered that the tanker with registration number: Cross River XA 574 Calabar, fell on Saturday at about 3:55pm releasing all the products it was carrying into some compounds belonging to members of Ntezi-Amuzu community which caught fire and leading to the death of two persons and destruction of buildings and lockup shops worth millions of naira.

It was further learnt that visited the scene, the truck fell because of a bad spot along the expressway which was not properly concealed with a road sign so as to enable commuters take alternative routes.

Officials of the Federal Road Safety Commission, FRSC, in the state were yet to arrive the scene at the time of filing this report. Eye-witnesses told our correspondent adding that apart from the two persons that lost their lives following the incident, three others were admitted at the Federal Teaching Hospital, Abakaliki, FETHA where they currently receiving treatment.

"It started about 3:55pm on Saturday. When the tanker was just passing, along the

line it fell on the road and led to outbreak of fire. It destroyed two motorcycles, buildings and wounded three persons who are now receiving treatment in the Federal Teaching Hospital Abakaliki. Two persons, by name Mrs. Margaret Nworie and Mr. Felix of Ntezi-Amuzu community lost their lives because of the incident," said a member of the community, Mr.

Chidi Nweke. "Fighters arrived here very late. We want government to help us handle the situation. They should come and help our people. The driver was here but was taken away by the police to the station. The driver was not over speeding when the incident happened. It happened because of the bad road".

Reacting, Chairman

of Ezza South LGA of the state, Hon. Lazarus Ogbue charged motorists to drive with care especially as the festive season was around the corner. He called on the contractors handling the rehabilitation and maintenance of the Abakaliki-Expressway to expedite action on the road so as to avoid similar incident from reoccurring in the near future.

Sales rep in dock for alleged theft of N187,000

A sales representative, Rolake Adebisi, who allegedly stole N187,000 belonging to her employer's clients, was on Monday charged before a Surulere Magistrate's Court, Lagos.

Adebisi, 43, who resides at No.12 Dupe Aina St., Osogbo, is facing a count charge of stealing.

The prosecutor, Corporal Gbenga Salami, told the court that

the accused allegedly committed the offence sometime in Sept. 2010.

Salami said that Adebisi collected the amount from some customers of Ekesons Parcel Services Ltd., Surulere in Lagos, and failed to pay it into the company's account.

The prosecutor said that the offence committed contravened Section 285 of the Criminal Code, Laws of Lagos State.

Adebisi, however, pleaded not guilty to the charge.

The Magistrate, Mrs. A. Tobin admitted the accused to bail without any monetary value, as well as two sureties.

She said that the sureties must, however, reside in Lagos and adjourned the case to January 22, 2013 for mention.

Police arraign man for allegedly stabbing mother-in-law

A 29-year-old man, Ise Ubong, was yesterday arraigned before an Igbosere Magistrate's Court, Lagos, for allegedly stabbing his mother-in-law with a knife.

Ubong, who is unemployed, was arraigned on a two-count charge of unlawful damage and causing bodily harm.

Prosecutor Julius Oyakhilome told the court that the accused on November 17 caused bodily harm to his mother-

in-law, Juliana Stephen.

Oyakhilome said the accused committed the offence at Jazz 38, Maruwa Area of Lekki Phase 1 in Lagos.

The accused became violent when he was not allowed by the mother-in-law to take away his three-month-old baby who was in her care. The accused did not only use a knife to cause bodily harm to Stephen but also destroyed the wooden house worth N30,000," Oyakhilome said.

He said offences contravened Sections 56 and 348 of the Criminal Code, Laws of Lagos State, 2011.

Ubong, however, pleaded not guilty to the charge.

The Magistrate, Miss P.O. Ope-Agbe, granted bail to the accused in the sum of N30,000 with one surety in like sum.

She adjourned the case to December 10, for mention.