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Written by Johnkennedy Uzoma, Owerri Tuesday, 28 August 2012 00:00



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Traders at the Ekeukwu Owerri market in Imo State yesterday deserted their shops following the murder of one of their colleagues, a middle aged trader, Uchenna Ibe aka 14.14.

Following the incident, the leadership of the market directed all traders not to open their shops until they are able to uncover the circumstances surrounding Uchenna's death. Daily Trust observed that the Ekeukwu Owerri market remained closed for several hours yesterday until a team of armed policemen led by ASP Eze Breden arrived.

Breden appealed to the traders to open their shops and go about their normal businesses, assuring them of their safety.

He urged them not to take laws into their hands, but to remain calm and allow police investigate the matter. He said already, the suspected killer has been arrested. Late Uchenna, who until his death was a dealer in shoes at Lagos Line in the market, was allegedly murdered by the former chairman of the market during a disagreement.

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