

# Policeman facing murder charge hangs self in detention

By **Odita Sunday**

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A detained policeman, simply identified as Eze, has committed suicide at the State Criminal Investigation and Intelligence Department (SCIID), Panti in Yaba, Lagos State. The policeman, who was attached to the Dangote factory, had allegedly shot dead a young man, prompting his arrest and detention at SCIID cell.

The murder case against Eze was still been investigated at the Homicide Section of SCIID, before he hanged himself in the early hours of Wednesday.

A source at SCIID said Eze hanged himself in a secluded part of the cell. “It was his cellmates who woke up this morning and saw his dead body that started shouting. It was obvious he made sure all his cellmates were asleep before taking the drastic step,” the source said.

The Lagos Police Public Relations Officer, Elkana Bala, who confirmed the incident, said: “On February 5, at about 1.30a.m. one Inspector Okon Essien, detained in State CID cell, Yaba for allegedly shooting and killing one Hassan Usman Stanley, was reported to have killed himself.

“The suspect was arrested at Akodo on January 1, 2020, at about 2.40 p.m. alongside three of his colleagues namely; Inspector Lawrence Adegboye, Inspector Olorunloju Olusegun and Sergeant Ovbioghi Joseph. The officers were said to have intercepted four suspects namely Samson Ugonah, Omachi Godwin, Hassan Usman Stanley and Prosper Okoye along Area 12, Offshore Oil Dangote Refinery Project, Akodo. Inspector Okon Essien was alleged to have shot at one of the suspects, Hassan Usman Stanley, resulting in his death.

“The Policemen were arrested and taken to State CID Yaba for investigation. While in custody, the said Inspector Okon Essien is alleged to have killed himself. His body has been deposited at the mortuary for autopsy. The Commissioner of Police Lagos State Command, CP Hakeem Odumosu has ordered an in-depth investigation into the case. Investigation is ongoing.”

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