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# One killed, properties destroyed in Ebonyi PDP LG primaries

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**THE** councillorship primaries of the Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) in Ebonyi State yesterday turned bloody in many local government areas with at least one person confirmed dead while many others were injured.

While a good number of participants in the exercise are in hospitals, some members of the state House of Assembly narrowly escaped death in the outbreak of violence that ensued during the conduct of the primaries.

Cars, houses and other valuables were also lost to the violence in about four

local government areas in the state.

Following the fracas, the results of the primaries in Afikpo South and Onicha local government areas and some wards in Ohaukwu council area have been cancelled by the party.

Briefing newsmen in Abakaliki, the state capital, Police Public Relations Officer (PPRO), DSP Sylvester Igbo, said one Kalu Ogbu Awu, 38 years, was shot dead while another party faithful, Ibom Agwu Kama, sustained gunshot injury and was rushed to the hospital where he is receiving treatment.

Igbo said initial report gathered by the police indicates that the outbreak

of violence in the local government areas was due to a clash between supporters of the two councillorship aspirants in the ward.

It was also gathered that the police also foiled an attempt by one of the factions to burn down the house of a pharmacist, Collinius Orji, the Development Coordinator of Edda East Development Centre.

"In Ezza North LGA, a Mercedes Benz truck with registration number XJ182NSH belonging to one Mr Sunday Ogbuagu, a Supervisory Councillor in the council and a house nearby were set ablaze by a faction said to be unhappy with the outcome of the primaries", he added.

In Onicha Local Government Area, a member of the House of Assembly, Odefa Obasi Odefa, representing Onicha East Constituency, allegedly escaped an assassination attempt by a councillor inside the council headquarters.

In Izzi Local Government Area, a Toyota Hilux jeep belonging to the chairman of the council was vandalised while the driver, Godwin Obasi, was admitted at the hospital following matchete cuts all over his body after thugs loyal to a party stalwart in the area descended on him after conveying policemen and electoral materials to Igbeagu Ward 1 of the council.

