

sending similar messages to the Chairman of Mopa-Muro Local government, Mr. Funsho Daniyan

by policemen who had been stationed at one of the commercial banks operating in Lokoja metropolis.

The police Commissioner said the suspects would soon be charged to court.

Family petitions CJ over death of son, demands N500m damages

By Temidayo Akinsuyi

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THE family of a lawyer allegedly killed by a Federal High Court driver has petitioned the Chief Judge of the Court, Justice Ibrahimauta, seeking a compensation of N500 million from the court.

Mr Joseph Nnaemeka Ogenyi was allegedly killed on May 22, 2013, when a bus belonging to the court crushed him on the street in Port Harcourt, Rivers State.

On the fateful day, the driver of the bus, Mr. Ekenedirichukwu Ojukwu allegedly drove against the run of traffic and knocked

down Ogenyi. He was immediately taken to the University of Port Harcourt Teaching Hospital Choba where he later died from the injuries sustained from the incident.

The late Ogenyi was 29 years old at the time of his death. He was born on November 23, 1984. He graduated from the Ebonyi State University in 2008 with a Bachelor's Degree in Law and was called to the Nigerian Bar on the November 3, 2009. He was survived by six siblings and both parents.

After his death, the Federal High Court authority alleg-

edly gave the family the sum of N500, 00.00. But in a letter to the Chief Judge, the lawyer to the Ogenyi family, Mr Anthony Oka, believed that the life of the late lawyer was worth more than what the court offered.

"The life of Ogenyi was cut short, brutally in its prime. He could have risen to serve his fatherland and indeed humanity in any capacity; but that is not going to be. Prior to his death, Ogenyi was already assisting in the education of his siblings and in the upkeep of his parents, and relations. All these hopes and aspira-

tions and assistance are now lost. We hold the Federal High Court authority vicariously liable for Ogenyi's untimely death.

"We have been instructed by the family to demand from the Federal High Court the sum of N500 million as damages and compensation for the negligent causing of the death of Barrister Joseph Nnaemeka Ogenyi. Please note, that we also by this letter give you statutory notice of our intention to proceed to court against you if you do not meet with our demands within the length of the statutory notice" Oka said.