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SSS parades six over kidnap, murder of school proprietor

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By **Felix Uka** *Reporter, Abakaliki*

The Ebonyi State Directorate of the State Security Service (SSS), during the weekend, paraded six suspected kidnappers.

The six are also suspected masterminds of the March 16, 20014 kidnap and brutal murder of the former Coordinator of Okposi Development Centre, and Proprietor of Zenith International School, Okposi, Ohaozara Local Government Area of the state, Ihebunandu Okorie.

Okorie was kidnapped at the Presbyterian Church, Okposi, by a gang of armed men, who demanded a ransom of N50 million.

Briefing journalist at the directorate headquarters, Hilltop Road, Abakaliki, the state Director of SSS, La'asan Baba, gave the names of the suspected kidnappers as Ebere Ukpai Nnachi (aka Kill and Bury), 32 years old from Ekoli Edda, Afikpo South LGA, who was arrested in Uzuakoli, Bende council of Abia State.

Others include Odichimma Osuji, 30, who hails from Umogu in Ugwuagbo LGA of Abia State, Chukwudi Nwamara, 32, from Umuzo, Umuwama community in Osioma LGA, Abia State and Amos Obasi, 23 who also

hails from Obiagu Okposi Community in Ohaozara LGA in Ebonyi State.

Others are Peter Nwanna, 30 years old, from Uroke Enugu-Ukwu, Aniocha LGA, Anambra State and Adamu Suleiman who hails from Ebira in Kogi State.

Okorie was, however, killed by the kidnappers even before the ransom was paid and his decomposing body was found in a forest at Nguzu Edda in Afikpo South LGA during a search operation carried out by the Command and soldiers from Nkwagu Military Cantonment on March 26, 2014.

Baba said Ebere was arrested while attempting to collect the ransom on March 19, 2014. "He owns two AK 47 rifles purchased in Benin, Edo State, at the rate of N300, 000.00. He is married and a notorious cocaine dealer in West Africa".

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