

Protest In Ebonyi Community As Gunmen Kill Councillor

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Protest erupted yesterday in Okposi community in Ohaozara local government area of Ebonyi State over the gruesome murder of a 45-year-old councillor representing Echara Ward 2 Okposi, Mr Ogbonnaya Ugwu by suspected gunmen along the popular court area of the town.

Angered by the killing of the father of three, youths and women of the area took to the streets to protest what they de-

scribed as the rising insecurity, political killings and unabated murder of innocent people in the state in the last six months.

The protesters who carried palm fronds and chanting mourning songs described the murder of the councillor as one death too many and called on the state government and the security agencies in the state to live up to their responsibility adding that hoodlums are gradually overrunning the state.

One of the protesters and a community leader, Mr Christo-

pher Ajah, expressed regret that despite the heavy presence of security personnel in the state, hoodlums still struck without challenge from the security personnel deployed in the state.

Similarly, the Ebonyi State chapter of the All Progressives Grand Alliance (APGA) Campaign Council has expressed sadness over the murder of Ugwu, popularly known as SPACCO.

In a statement signed by the director, media and publicity, APGA Campaign Council, Mr

Charles Otuh, he said Ugwu was killed around 10 pm Saturday as he was returning from his shop, a drinking joint known in Okposi as "Angle 90".

"The deceased, Ugwu was a development-oriented and liberal minded community leader, who was well respected in Okposi and beyond. Sources in Okposi who had earlier confirmed the incident to newsmen in Abakaliki yesterday morning, said Ugwu was accosted by the gunmen around Okposi Court Area junction.