

# Court frees man of murder

By Remilekun Osasona

**A** Chief Magistrate's Court, Ikeja has discharged and acquitted a middle aged man, Babatunde Oni, of the murder of one man, Emmanuel Ishola.

Chief Magistrate A. O. Komolafe Oni of the charge following an out-of-court settlement between the families of the defendant and the late Ishola.

The Police arraigned the defendant on a charge of murder.

The prosecutor, Inspector Roman Umuigbe had alleged that Oni drove his Honda Accord car, marked ER 631 LND, recklessly on the street thereby causing the death of the deceased per-

son, Ishola.

Umuigbe said the offence was committed on November 2, this year on Ajao Road, Ikeja.

He said the offence was punishable under section 19(1) of the Road Traffic law No 27 Vol. 45 Laws of Lagos State of Nigeria 2012.

Counsel to the defendant, Derinade Yusuf, pleaded with the court to release the defendant, saying that the family of the deceased and the defendant have reached an out-of-court settlement on the matter and that they are not inter-

ested in the prosecution of the defendant again.

But the prosecutor said he was not aware of any such arrangement.

But the first daughter of the deceased, Mrs. Bola Adesanya confirmed the deal.

Mrs Adesanya said the family of the deceased wants the case discontinued.

In her judgment, Chief Magistrate Komolafe said the court could no longer go ahead with the prosecution of the defendant since the complainants have agreed to settlement out of court with the defendant.

She, therefore, struck out the case and ordered the defendant to be discharged.