

Family petitions IG over member's death

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The family of the late Mrs. Rachael Oladejo, a health officer in Igbara-Oke, Ifedore Local Government Area of Ondo State has petitioned the Inspector-General of Police, Mr. Solomon Arase over the woman's death.

In a petition through their lawyer, Henry Adegbemile, dated September 2, the deceased was allegedly knocked down by a truck driver attached to the Dangote firm at Adebayo Junction, Igbara-Oke headquarters of the local government on her way to church.

The truck, with registration number Benue XA 336 BKB allegedly skidded off the road and hit the victim.

Adegbemile said the driver; Umar Abubakar was subsequently arrested by the police in Igbara-Oke division and dragged to the Chief Magistrate's Court in Igbara-Oke.

However, the petitioner said after Mrs. Oladejo spent almost four months in the hospital, she died on April 23 as a result of injuries she sustained in the incident.

The lawyer alleged that neither Dangote Group nor the driver has shown any concern on the incident and eventual death of the late public health officer.

According to him, the driver, despite being charged for reckless driving, on hearing the death of his victim, disappeared since then.

The petitioner also said his clients, Dr Busuyi Mekusi and Miss Adebukola Faloyo believed that the driver's employer, Dangote Group of Companies knew his whereabouts and were of the opinion that the accused was being shielded from justice.

He lamented that since the death of Mrs. Oladejo, her children have been in distress and living from hand to mouth.

Adegbemile said: "The Inspector-General of Police should order thorough investigation into the disappearance of the driver from court and ensure that he is re-arrested for prosecution over the death of the deceased.

The lawyer pleaded that Mrs. Oladejo's case should not be one of the many unresolved deaths of "negligent" driving on the part of those in the employ of Dangote Group across Nigerian roads.

He said his clients have also petitioned the chairman, Dangote Group demanding a compensation of N500 million.

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