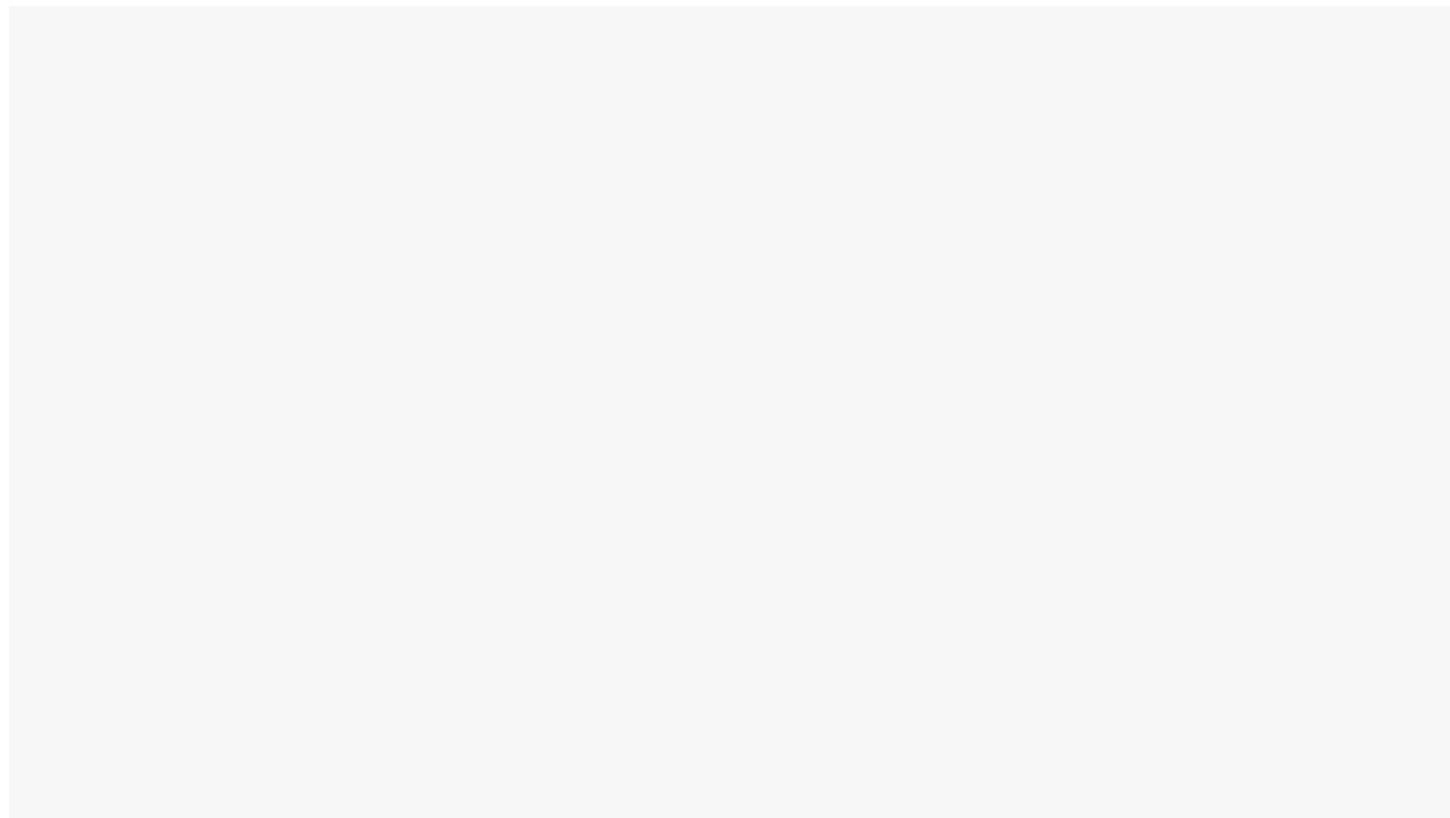


WAEC candidate shot dead as gunmen kidnap Abia NULGE LG boss



by **Sunny Nwankwo, Aba** May 8, 2019



The Isiala Ngwa North, Nigeria Union of Local Government Employees (NULGE) chairman, Comrade Wachukwu Okechukwu, has been reportedly kidnapped by gunmen.

Okechukwu was said to have been abducted at Nbawsi in Isiala Ngwa North LGA of Abia State at about 10:15pm at his elder brother's viewing centre where he had gone to watch the champion league semi-final match between Liverpool and Barcelona on Tuesday night.

The unknown gunmen were said to have double crossed his black Toyota Corolla SUV and bundled him into the boot before whisking him away through Ururuka road to an unknown destination.

Unconfirmed reports have it that two yet-to-be identified candidates of the ongoing West African Examination Council (WAEC) who had come to the area for the May/June WASCE were said to have been hit by stray bullets as the abductors shot sporadically into the air while exiting the community with their victim.

A source, who pleaded anonymity, disclosed one of the May/June candidates who was later identified as Ebere, aged 19, a native of Umunkolo Nbawsi reportedly passed on in the early hours of Wednesday.

The other victim is said to be in a critical condition at an undisclosed medical facility.

The source stated the gunmen, suspected to be kidnappers, were yet to make demand for any ransom at the time of this report.

He however the car of the kidnapped NULGE boss was later recovered where it was abandoned at one Umuala junction.

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Sources within the Isiala North and Abia leadership of NULGE said that they were yet to be officially notified about the incident as some of them claimed that they learnt about it through social media.

The NULGE sources who maintained that there wasn't any crisis amongst them, said that it behooves on security agencies to fish out the perpetrators and unravel if there was any political undertone in the kidnap.

When contacted on his mobile phone, Abia State Police Command's spokesman, SP Geoffrey Ogbonna said that he was yet to receive official information on the matter.

Ogbonna, who said he was going to contact the Divisional Police Officer under whose jurisdiction the incident happened, promised to get back to our reporter after speaking with the DPO in-charge of Isiala Ngwa North.

Our reporter recalled that in November 2016 in Aba, the commercial nerve of the state, unknown abducted the Vice President of the Abia state chapter NULGE Mr. Ikechi Nwaigwe in front of his residence at the Federal Housing Estate, Ogbor Hill, Aba and later made demand of N2m ransom when they established contact with the victim's family.