

## NEWS HEADLINES

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# Keyamo demands probe into Patience Jonathan's nephew's death in Abuja hotel

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Human Rights lawyer, Festus Keyamo, has asked the Inspector General of Police to institute a probe into the circumstances surrounding the drowning of Christopher Awin, a nephew to Mrs Patience Jonathan, in the swimming pool of Agura Hotel in Abuja.

In a petition, Keyamo said: "We are solicitors to Madam Esther Ebiere Gbonkumor and the entire Awin family. They have briefed us as follows: "That on June 7, 2014, their son, Mr Christopher Onoriode Akpomowei Awin, a 31-year old Nigerian citizen, was invited to a picnic by the Ijaw Students' Association of the University of Abuja as part of the celebration of their cultural week.

"That picnic held at Agura Hotels in Abuja. We were informed that sometime at about 4:00 p.m., the picnic came to an end and all the members of the association left for the University of Abuja campus and their various residences in Gwagwalada, Abuja.

"However, Mr Christopher Awin stayed behind for some swimming exercise.

"In a most bizarre twist of events, Mr Christopher Awin was found drowned to death in the swimming pool of Agura Hotels at about 6:00 p.m later that day and officers of the Garki Division of the Nigerian Police were called in.

"A post mortem has been carried out by a certified consultant pathologist who confirmed that his death was as a result of drowning and further added that if the victim had received help within five minutes of being submerged, he would have survived. Our enquiries have shown that there were two life guards on duty at the pool who curiously left their duty post on flimsy excuses. Further enquiries also revealed that there was a busy bar beside the swimming pool. In spite of the expected attendant staff presence, the body of the victim was not found until over one hour after he had drowned."

Keyamo, therefore, urged the Inspector General of police to, as a matter of urgency, constitute a team of investigators to unravel the circumstances surrounding the death.

"We are respectfully inviting you to employ your good offices in ordering a full coroner's inquest for the purpose of resolving the foregoing queries and charge all those found culpable to court.

"We repose confidence in your good offices and thank you for your anticipated cooperation," a petition from Keyamo said.

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