

# LG polls: One killed, many injured as protests mar A'ibom PDP primaries

INIJOBONG EKPONTA-UYO

At least one person was reported killed while several others sustained varying degrees of injuries during the Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) primaries held across the 329 wards spread across the 31 local government areas of Akwa Ibom State.

Most of the skirmishes, it was gathered, occurred in Ikono ward 2, as supporters

of two councilorship aspirants clashed during the exercise.

Several party supporters and stakeholders were also said to have been injured in Itam-Itu, when youths opposed the imposition of candidates allegedly by Honourable Idongesit Ituen, the House of Assembly member representing the area.

"The police had to use tear gas and shot in the air to ensure the exercise is not dis-

rupted by hoodlums," a senior police officer, who would not want his name in print, told the Nigerian Tribune.

In Ikot Ekpene, Senator Emmanuel Ibok Essien, a PDP Board of Trustees (BoT) member, led a group of delegates to the state council of the Nigeria Union of Journalists (NUJ), protesting irregularities in the exercise, arguing that "the authentic delegates were prevented from participating in the

poll."

"Therefore, we the undersigned PDP stakeholders reject the result of the chairmanship primaries", Senator Ibok Essien said, adding that they would follow the due process through the party hierarchy in seeking redress in the matter.

It was also gathered that attempt to impose an unpopular candidate led to violence in Etim Ekpo, Esit Eket, Abak and other councils, forcing

primaries to be relocated to Uyo.

When contacted, the Police Public Relations Officer (PPRO), DSP Chukwu Ikechukwu, said he was yet to get full details from Divisional Police Officers (DPOs) of the

affected areas.

"I will call the DPOs of those areas to get full details," Ikechukwu said, adding that the police would not leave anything stone unturned in ensuring that lives and property were protected.

## 2018: Lasun visits Ooni, Ogunsua, promises transformation of Osun

By MOSES ALAO

DEPUTY Speaker of the House of Representatives

He also promised to fully and evenly develop the infrastructure across Osun State, noting that the state, under