

Man, wife, gateman docked for allegedly murdering woman, stealing her child

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A man, Mr Lucky Godwin (26) and his wife, Joy (24) have been arraigned in an Abakaliki Chief Magistrates' Court in Ebonyi State alongside a 20-year-old gateman of a hotel in Abakaliki, Monday Onwe, for alleged murder of yet-to-be-identified woman with a kitchen knife, and stealing of her two-year-old child.

The woman was reportedly killed at the Crown Garden Hotel, Afikpo road, Abakaliki on November 30, 2018 allegedly by the couple, who were said to have specialised in child trafficking, in connivance with the gateman.

The couple, in the five-count charge with suit number MAB/12c/2019, was also accused of recently selling their biological son, five-year-old Emmanuel Lucky Godwin, to one Dr Avon, resident in Rivers State.

They were accused of committing offences punishable under sections 324, 319 (1), 516A (a) of criminal code cap 33 vol. 1 laws of Ebonyi State of Nigeria 2009 and sections 30 (2) and 32 (3), both of State Child Rights and Related matters law, 2010.

The Chief Magistrate, Stella Oguoke, ordered the remand of the suspects in prison custody and directed the transfer of all documents and evidences

in the matter to the Director of Public Prosecution (DPP) for further prosecutions.

The matter was adjourned till March 11.

Part of the charges read: "That you Lucky Godwin, Monday Onwe, Joy Godwin and others now at large, on the aforementioned date, place and time

did fraudulently take away and detained in your custody a two-year-old child who was under the care and custody of her biological mother, whom you

killed; and thereby committed offence punishable under Section 30(2) of the Ebonyi state Child Rights and related matters law, 2010."



Fire razes six PDP campaign vehicles, police begin probe