

# Gunmen Kill Wedding Guest, Injure 3 Others In Failed Bid To Kidnap Akwa Ibom Lawmaker

By Iniobong Ekponta, Uyo On Nov 6, 2021

LATEST NEWS



FILE PHOTO

There was pandemonium at the weekend in Idung Ikpetuen, a sleepy community in Uquo, headquarters of Esit Eket Local Government Area of Akwa Ibom state as armed hoodlums stormed a traditional wedding ceremony, killing one person identified as Raphael Emmanuel, and injured three others in a failed attempt to kidnap Chief Usoro Akpanusoh, the member representing Ibeno\Esit Eket in state House of Assembly.

It was gathered the gunmen, numbering about six stormed the venue of the traditional wedding at around 6:45pm, when the lawmaker was trying to depart, forcing guests to scamper amid sporadic gunshots by the hoodlums.

“The gunmen arrived as the guests including our House of Assembly were about leaving. They started shooting at random to scare away the people to pave the way for them to capture him, but his security Aides were vigilant and immediately whisked him away.

“But after the lawmaker had successfully escaped, one of the guests, Raphael Emmanuel, was spotted in the pool of his blood on the ground dead, while three others who sustained some degrees of injury were rushed to the nearby hospital in Eket town, where they are currently recuperating”, Assanga Bassey, one of the guests told Newsmen.

Confirming the attack, Akpanusoh, who currently chairs the House Committee on Public Utilities, thanked the God Almighty for helping him to escape by the whiskers.

“I thank God for the miraculous escape from the hands of the hoodlums who attacked a traditional wedding ceremony that I attended in a community in my Local Government, Esit Eket.

“I want to pray God for the repose of the soul of the dead and for quick recovery of those injured during the incident. I have reported the matter to the Police with the hope that the perpetrators will be apprehended and brought to justice”, he said.

However, the Police Public Relations Officer (PPRO), Police Superintendent (SP), Odiko Macdon, could not pick calls to his phone to ascertain whether the matter had been transferred to the state headquarters at Ikot Akpanabia, near Uyo, the state capital for action.