

Policeman killed as gunmen attack INEC office in Enugu

Taiwo Amodu | Abuja

THE Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC) has again disclosed an attack on one of its offices.

The electoral body's National commissioner and chairman, Information and Voter Education Committee, Festus Okoye, in a statement on Monday said the commission's office "in Enugu South Local Govern-

ment Area of Enugu state was attacked by unknown gunmen.

"The incident occurred at about 9.12p.m. yesterday, Sunday, January 15."

The statement revealed that one policeman died while trying to repel the attackers, while another sustained injuries and is currently receiving treatment.

Okoye said a meeting of the Inter-Agency Consultative Committee on Election Security (ICCES) in Enugu State co-

chaired by the Resident Electoral Commissioner (REC) and the commissioner of police has been convened to discuss the latest incident and design additional strategies of fortifying the offices and protecting the personnel and materials.

The statement reads in part: "The Resident Electoral Commissioner (REC) for Enugu State, Dr Chukwuemeka J. Chukwu, has reported that our office in Enugu South Local Government Area was at-

tacked by unknown gunmen. The incident occurred at about 9:12p.m. yesterday, Sunday, January 15.

"The security gatehouse was razed. Fortunately, the attackers could not gain access to the main building as a result of the rapid response from the police and army personnel from 82 Division.

"The state Commissioner of Police and the REC were personally at the scene immediately they received information

about the attack.

"Of the two policemen deployed to protect the facility, one lost his life while the other sustained injuries and is receiving treatment. The commission prays for the repose of the soul of the deceased policeman and the speedy recovery of the injured.

The attack is being investigated by security agencies. Furthermore, a meeting of the Inter-Agency Consultative Committee on Election Se-

curity (ICCES) in Enugu State, co-chaired by the REC and the commissioner of police has been convened to discuss the latest incident and design additional strategies of fortifying the offices and protecting the personnel and materials.

"Meanwhile, the destroyed gatehouse will be rebuilt, and the commission is proceeding with its preparations for the 2023 general election in Enugu State and the entire country as scheduled."

Polenle Deboem: