

# METRO

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## Gunmen kill Labour Party senatorial candidate in Enugu APGA ward chairman shot dead in Ebonyi

From Igbonaka Chukwu and Grace Egbo

**G**UNMEN on Wednesday night killed the Labour Party (LP) senatorial candidate for Enugu East, Mr. Oyibo Chukwu.

Nigerian Tribune gathered that Chukwu, a lawyer, was killed alongside other occupants in his branded Toyota Sienna vehicle on Amechi road in Enugu South Local Government Area while returning from a campaign trip to Agbani.

Also, the driver of the Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) House of Representatives candidate for Enugu South and North federal constituency, Honourable Offor Chukwuegbo, was killed along the same axis by gunmen who were reportedly shouting 'No election in Biafra land.'

The campaign vehicle belonging to Chukwuegbo which the driver was driving was also set ablaze.

It was learnt that the LP senatorial candidate was billed to be hosted to a reception by his Amurri

community yesterday [Thursday] by 2:00 p.m.

A source said a Toyota Hilux vehicle conveying the gunmen for the operation had overtaken his branded Toyota Sienna bus at Amaechi axis and the hoodlums opened fire on occupants immediately.

The source added that following the gunshots, the vehicle immediately caught fire, which then burnt the occupants to death.

The governorship candidate of the Labour Party in the state, Chijioko Edeoga, confirmed the

incident, just as he added that "all the occupants in the Sienna vehicle were burnt to ashes."

"This is a devastating blow for us. I was with the candidate on Tuesday and we were planning to attend the reception by his community. It is unfortunate that this can happen."

Also Chukwuegbo, who confirmed the killing of his driver, said the gunmen operated with a tricycle.

He said: "Nobody escaped from the Sienna vehicle belonging to the Labour Party, from what I heard."

"My driver may have been attacked before the gunmen attacked the Labour Party candidate."

In another development, the chairman of the All Progressives Grand Alliance (APGA) in Ohofia Agba ward in Ishielu Local Government Area of Ebonyi State, Monday Idoko, has been shot dead by gunmen suspected to be political thugs.

A source said the ward chairman was shot on the head in his house at Onueke village in Ohofia-Agba community at about

11:00p.m on Wednesday.

A family source who spoke said that the assailants entered the house and dragged out the victim from his bed before they shot him on the head.

He said: "People wanted to rush him to the hospital but he died in the village. We have been in mourning mood since last night [Wednesday]."

The party's governorship candidate's convoy was also attacked penultimate week near the same Agba where his driver and police escort were killed.