

Family of electrocuted guard petitions Odili

**Soni Daniel,
Port Harcourt**

FAMILY of the Sharks Football Club Limited's guard who was electrocuted last month has written the Rivers State Governor, Dr. Peter Odili, for assistance to enable them bury their son.

Okubie Elvis Idasefiema, 26 was killed last month while trying to hoist the Nigerian flag at the Sharks Stadium, Port Harcourt, as part of the preparations for the celebration of Nigeria's 46th independence anniversary.

The family had scheduled the burial of the late security guard for November 4, 2006 but had to put it off due to lack of money.

In a letter dated October 2, 2006 and addressed to the state governor, the family appealed to the state government to assist the family in

mitigating the loss and grief occasioned by the tragic death of their son.

The letter, which was signed by Pastor Alaowueka Idasefiema, father of the late security man, noted with dismay the allocation of the dangerous assignment to the deceased by the management of the club.

He noted, "It is not only disheartening but also deplorable that irrespective of the wrong assignment, no supervisors or safety officers were placed on duty to ensure the safety of my son.

"Your Excellency, the worst of the matter was that as my son fell from the cable that shocked him and hit the ground, none of the people from the Sharks Club was there to rescue him and take him to the hospital until one and a half hours later after he

had already died."

"I am a pastor and a man of God and I have been devastated by his death and I plead that you do something about the avoidable death of my son. He died while serving the state and Nigeria."

The State Commissioner for Sports, Mr. Allwell Onyeso, sympathised with the family over the death of the security man and said that efforts were being made to assist the family.

Onyeso noted that although nothing could be done to compensate for the loss of life, steps were being taken to come to the aid of the family.

The Manager of the Sharks Football Club, Mr. Sunny Abbey, described the death of the security guard as painful and said that the matter was receiving attention from the relevant authorities.