

Driver faces trial for killing family

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A commercial bus driver, Emeka Johnson, was on Tuesday arraigned by the Police at a Magistrate's Court in Ikeja, Lagos for killing an entire family through reckless driving.

The accused was arraigned on a nine-count charge of killing, Mr. Kamorudeen Ajibola, his wife, Bunmi and their son, Malik.

He was also alleged to have wounded a yet-to-be identified motorcyclist, as well as destroying two cars and two motorcycles in an accident caused by his dangerous driving on February 15.

The damaged cars were a Toyota Carina marked LG 72 AAA belonging to Lagos Island Local Government and a Volkswagen commercial bus marked XQ 521 AKR, the property of one Mr. Segun Onigbede.

When the charge was read to the accused, he pleaded 'not guilty' to the offence which contravened sections 27, and 29 (1) of the Road Transport Law, Cap. 172, Vol. 7 of the

Laws of Lagos State of Nigeria, 2003.

The accused, 37, was alleged to have been driving his TATA commercial bus with registration number AQ671 LND "on the public highway in manner which was dangerous to other road users."

The accident, which occurred on Agege Motor Road, Ikeja, was allegedly caused when the bus developed brake failure.

It was in efforts to bring the bus to a halt that rammed into the Ajibola family who were coming from the opposite direction on their motorcycle.

The late Ajibola, a newspaper vendor in Oshodi, his wife, Bunmi and their son, Malik, died instantly.

Police, prosecutor, Mr. Barth Nwaokoye, insisted that "the circumstances of the case, nature, condition and amount of traffic" at the time of the accident suggested that Johnson was reckless.

The police had also listed a number of witnesses to testify against Johnson.