

Man arrested for alleged complicity in daughter's death

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A father of three, Mr. Paulinus Akpan, is now in police custody for an alleged complicity in the death of his first child, Blessing.

The controversy surrounding the death of Blessing on November 30 heightened when her mother, Glory Thompson, alleged that she "suspected a foul play."

Thompson and her husband, it was gathered, had been having a running battle over the paternity of the eight-year-old girl.

On November 27, the couple's disagreement deepened when Thompson packed a few of her belongings and left her matrimonial home.

She alleged that she left

her three children, two boys and a girl, at their 4, Christian Street, Oke-Afa, Ejigbo home on the night of her departure.

Our correspondent learnt that on November 30, Thompson went to Ejigbo Police Station and reported that she got information that her first child had died after a brief illness.

She claimed that the girl was hale and hearty when she left her on November 27 and wondered what could have killed her within three days.

Thompson told the police that her husband had been claiming that he was not the biological father of Blessing.

Based on the raging paternity crisis, she told the police that she suspected that her daughter might have been killed.

Some policemen sent to Akpan's house took the photograph of the deceased and arrested him.

At the police station, Akpan maintained that he had no hand in the death of his daughter. He insisted that the child died of an illness.

Meanwhile, the police said on Thursday that the corpse had been taken to Isolo General Hospital for an autopsy.

The Public Relations Officer, Lagos State Police Command, Mr. Frank Mba, confirmed the incident to our correspondent on Thursday.

Mba, a superintendent of police, said the police were still investigating the case and added that the autopsy report would reveal the cause of death.